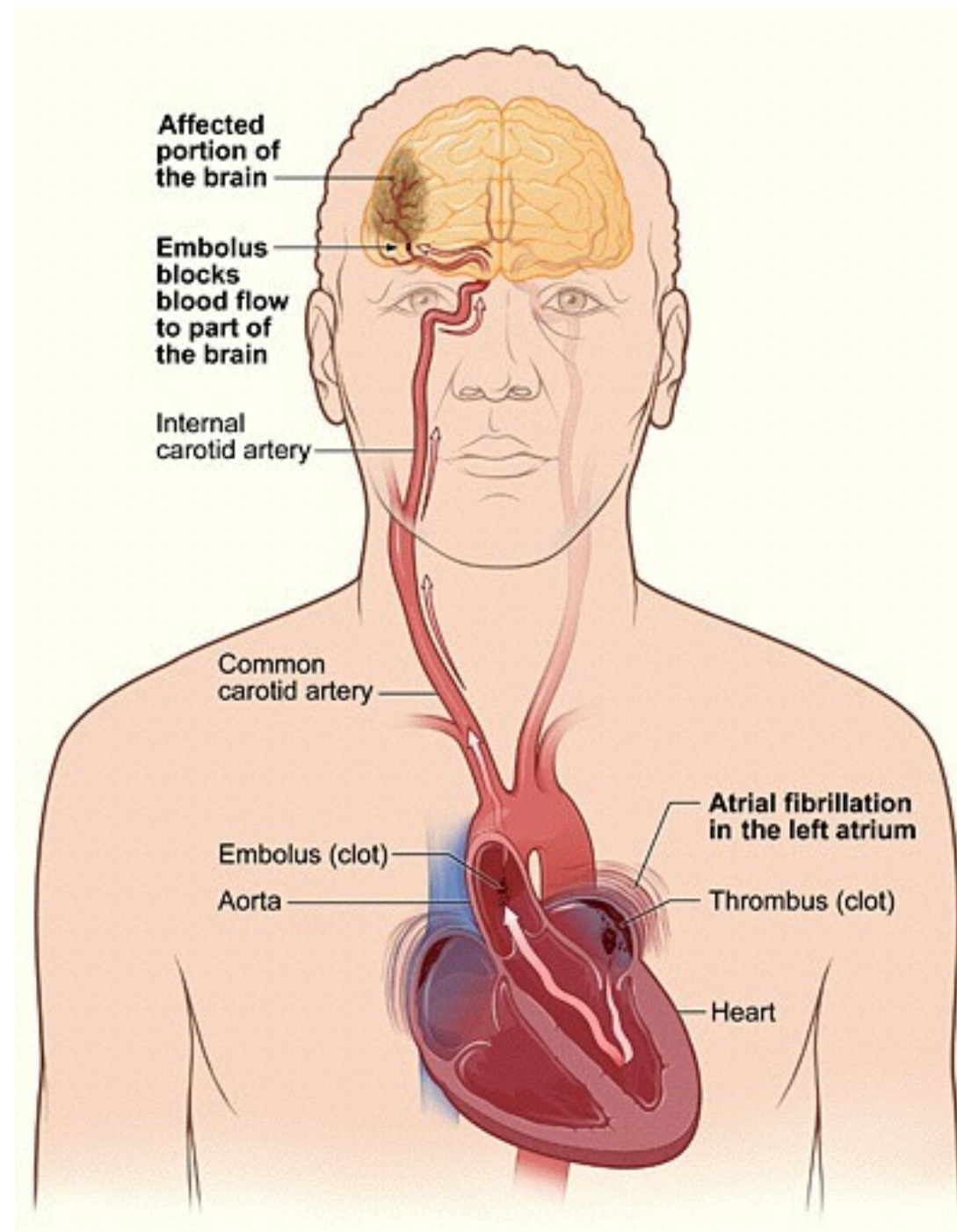


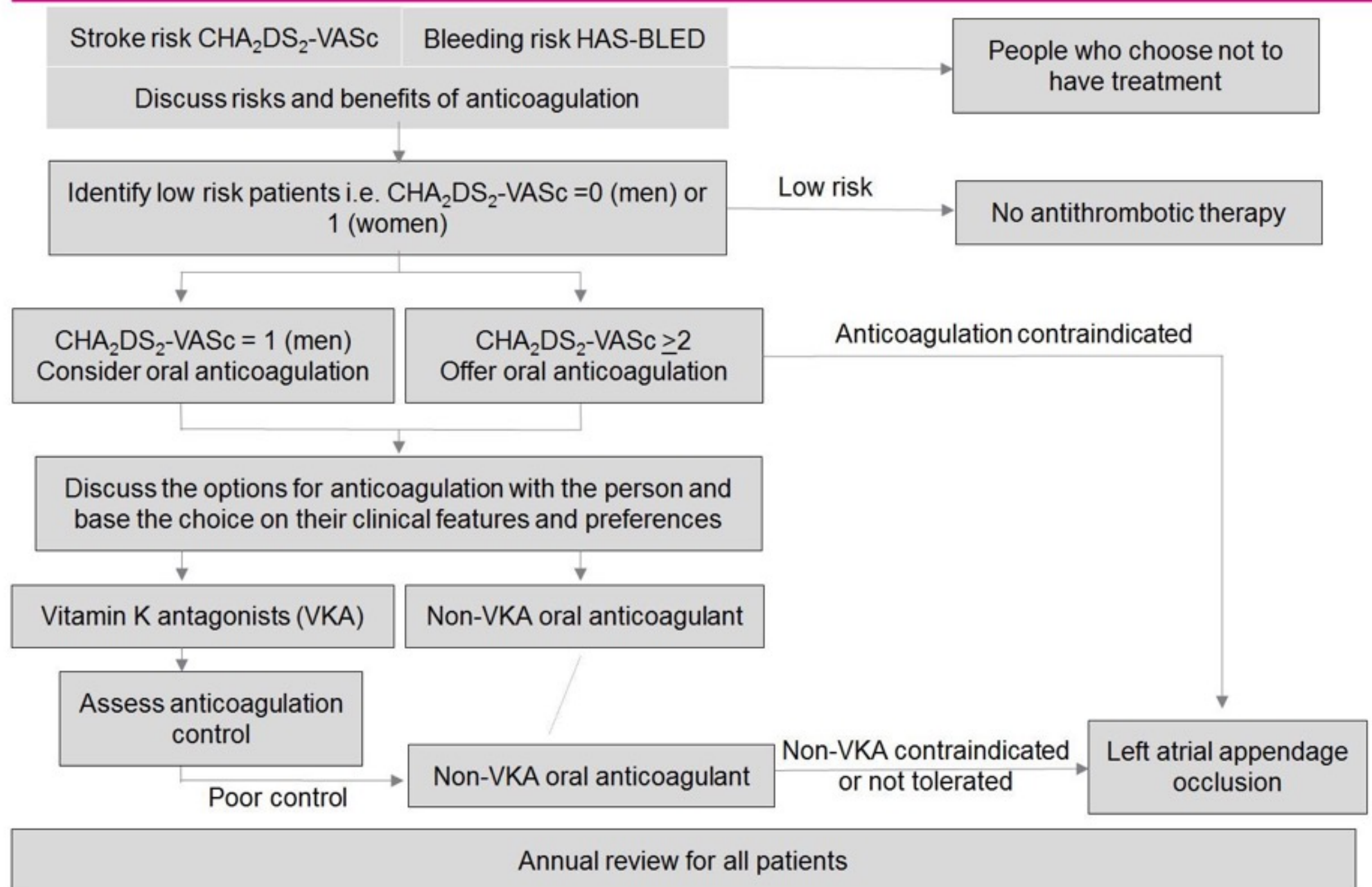
Stroke Prevention in AF

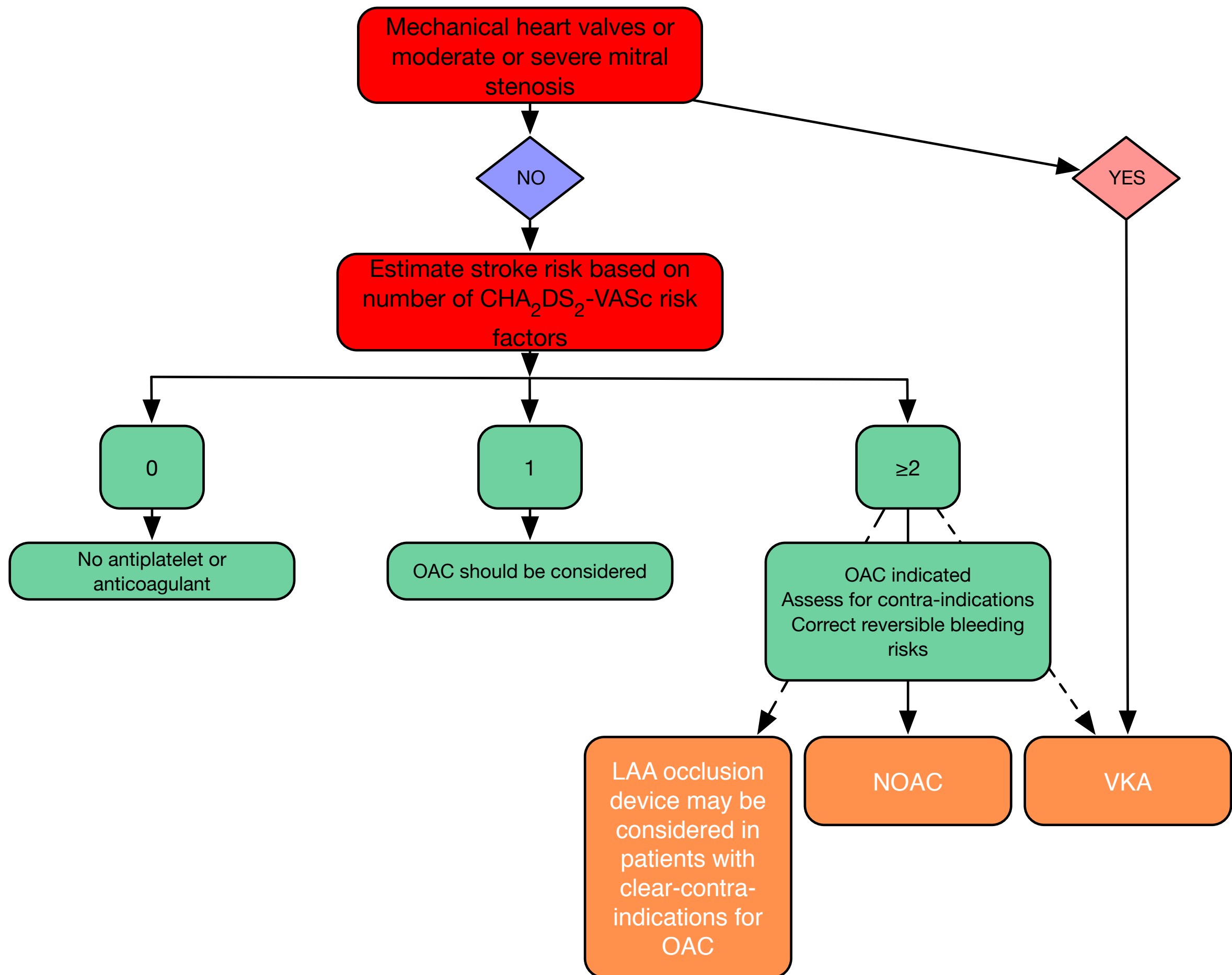
Dr Matthew Lovell
Royal Devon and Exeter Hospital

Stroke and AF

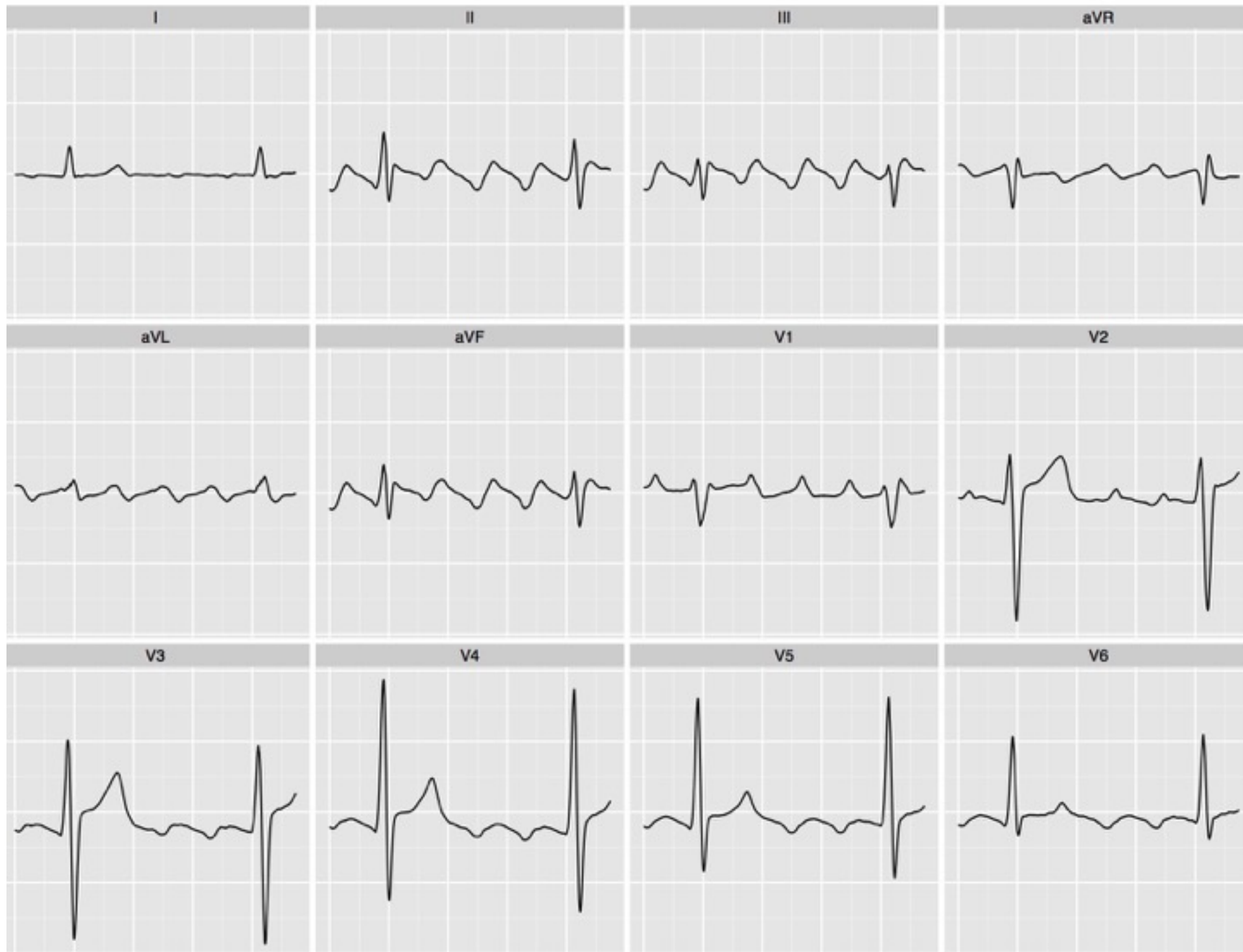


NICE algorithm for stroke prevention in people with non-valvular AF⁸





Flutter



Using CHA₂DS₂VASc to determine need for anticoagulation¹

- ◆ **NICE guidelines (2014)**
- ◆ **Do CHA₂DS₂VASc risk assessment** for all patients:
 - Paroxysmal AF
 - Persistent AF
 - Permanent AF
 - Atrial flutter
 - Risk of recurrence after cardioversion back to sinus rhythm
- ◆ If CHA₂DS₂VASc ≥ 2 **offer** anticoagulation
- ◆ If CHA₂DS₂VASc = 1 **consider** anticoagulation taking bleeding risk into account

The 2014 NICE guideline states to use the CHA₂DS₂-VASc stroke risk score instead of the CHADS₂ score²

CHADS ₂ Risk	Score
Congestive Heart Failure (CHF)	1
Hypertension	1
Age >75	1
Diabetes	1
Stroke or TIA	2

CHA ₂ DS ₂ -VASc Risk	Score
CHF or LVEF ≤40%	1
Hypertension	1
Age ≥75	2
Diabetes	1
Stroke/TIA/ Thromboembolism	2
Vascular Disease	1
Age 65–74	1
Female	1

LVEF = Left ventricular ejection fraction

Annual stroke risk with the CHADS₂ and CHA₂DS₂-VASc stroke risk score

CHA₂DS₂-VASc Annual Stroke Risk⁵

Score	Stroke risk %
0	0
1	1.3
2	2.2
3	3.2
4	4.0
5	6.7
6	9.8
7	9.6
8	12.5
9	15.2

4. Prevention of Cardiovascular Morbidity Associated with Atrial Fibrillation CME/CE, Gregory Y.H. Lip, MD, FRCP. Available at: <http://www.medscape.org/viewarticle/708955>. Last accessed: February 2016

5. Chopra, H.K. 2015. *Cardiological Society of India Cardiology Update 2014*. New Delhi: Jaypee Brothers Medical Publishers Ltd.

HAS-BLED score to assess a patients' individual bleeding risk

OAC benefits outweigh bleeding risk for most people¹

For people with an increased risk of bleeding, the benefit of anticoagulation may not always outweigh the bleeding risk, and careful monitoring of bleeding risk is important¹

The HAS-BLED score can change by controlling and monitoring¹:

- ◆ Uncontrolled hypertension
- ◆ Poor control of INR ('labile INRs')
- ◆ Concurrent medication, e.g. concomitant use of aspirin or an NSAID
- ◆ Harmful alcohol consumption

HAS-BLED score to assess bleeding risk ⁶		
Letter	Clinical characteristic	Points awarded
H	Hypertension	1
A	Abnormal renal and liver function (1 point each)	1 or 2
S	Stroke	1
B	Bleeding	1
L	Labile INRs	1
E	Elderly (e.g. age>65 years)	1
D	Drugs or alcohol (1 point each)	1 or 2
		Maximum 9 points

1. NICE 2014 AF CG180. <http://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/cg180>. Last accessed: February 2016

6. MD Calc. HAS-BLED Score for Major Bleeding Risk <http://www.mdcalc.com/has-bleed-score-for-major-bleeding-risk/>. Last accessed: February 2016

HAS-BLED Scoring for Risk of Major Bleeding with Oral Anticoagulation.

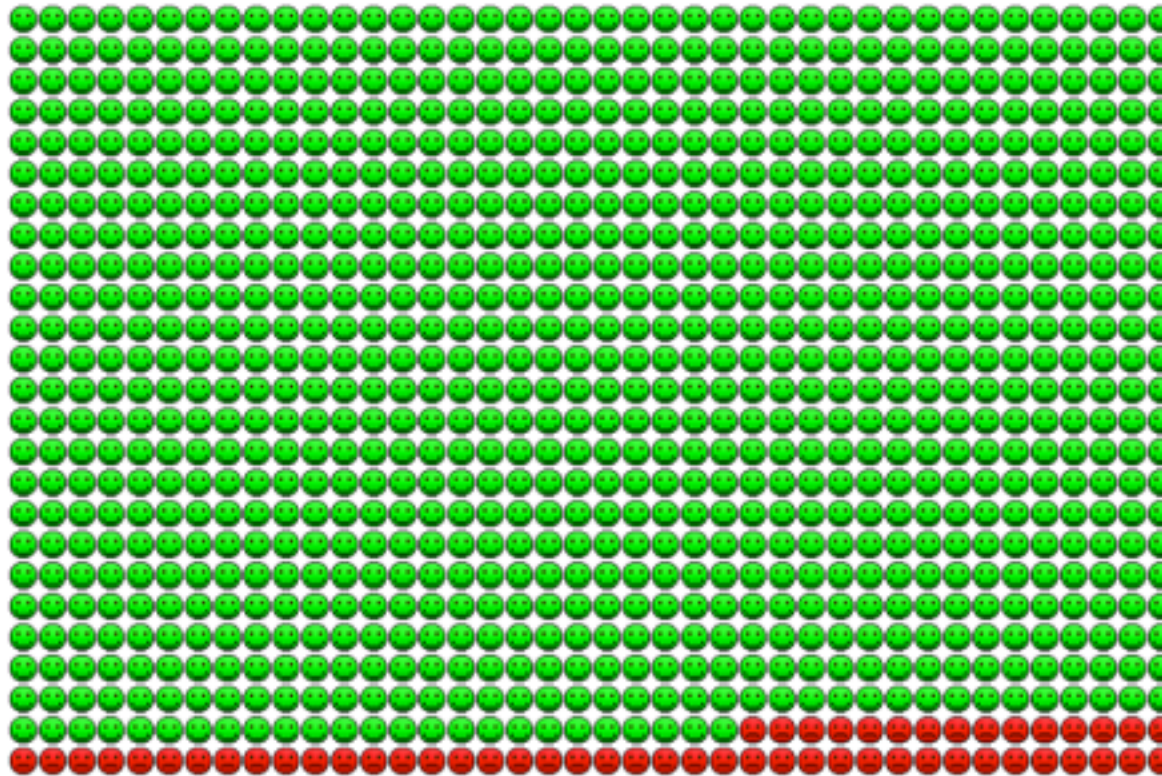
Category	Score
H ypertension ¹	1
A bnormal renal ² and liver function ³ (1 point each)	1 or 2
S troke	2
B leeding ⁴	1
L abile INRs ⁵	1
E lderley ⁶	1
D rugs ⁷ or alcohol ⁸ (1 point each)	1

1. Systolic BP >160 mmHg
2. Chronic dialysis, transplantation, Creat>200 µmol/l
3. Bilirubin >2 x normal and AST/ALT >3 x normal
4. Previous bleeding history and/or predisposition to bleeding
5. Time in therapeutic range <60%
6. Age >65 years
7. Concomitant use of drugs such as aspirin and NSAIDs
8. Alcohol consumption >8 u/week

HAS-BLED Score and Annual Risk of Major Bleed.

Cumulative HAS-BLED Score	Risk of Major Bleed, %
0	1.13
1	1.02
2	1.88
3	3.72
4	8.70
5	12.5

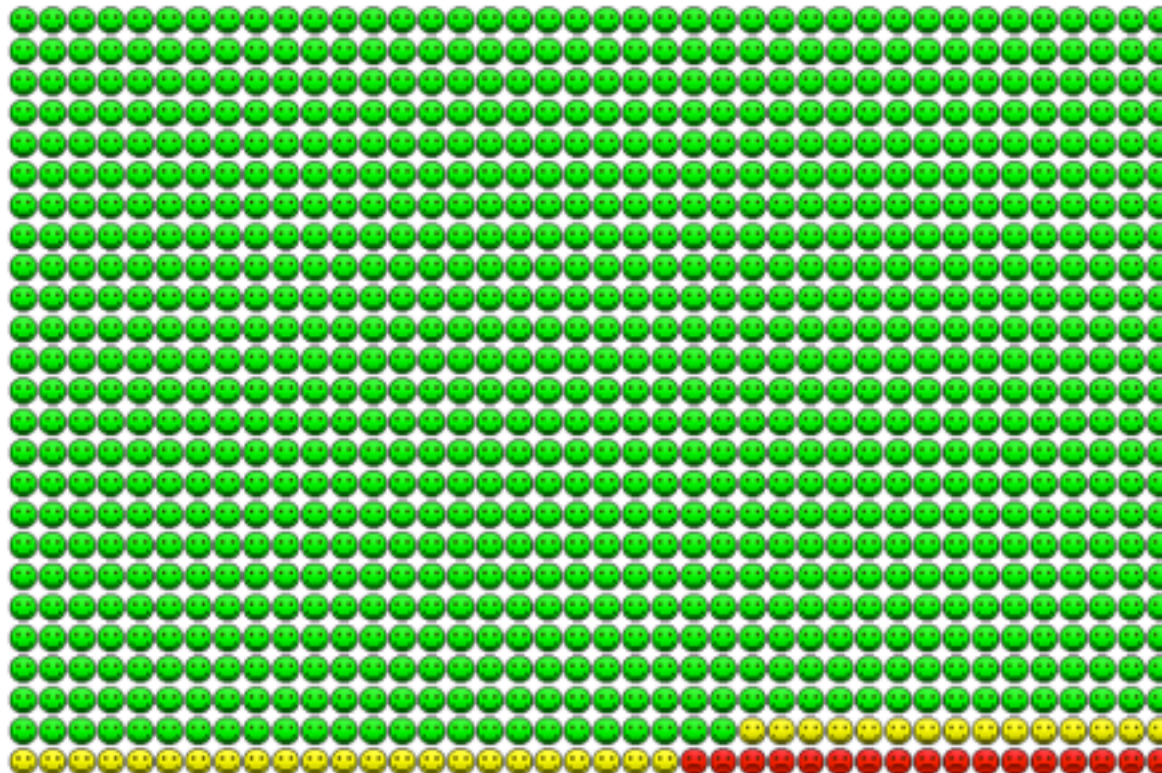
No treatment: CHA₂DS₂-VASc score 4



If 1000 people with AF and a CHA₂DS₂-VASc score of 4 take no anticoagulant, over 1 year on average:

- 945 people will not have an AF-related stroke (the green faces)
- 55 people will have an AF-related stroke (the red faces).

Anticoagulant: CHA₂DS₂-VASc score 4

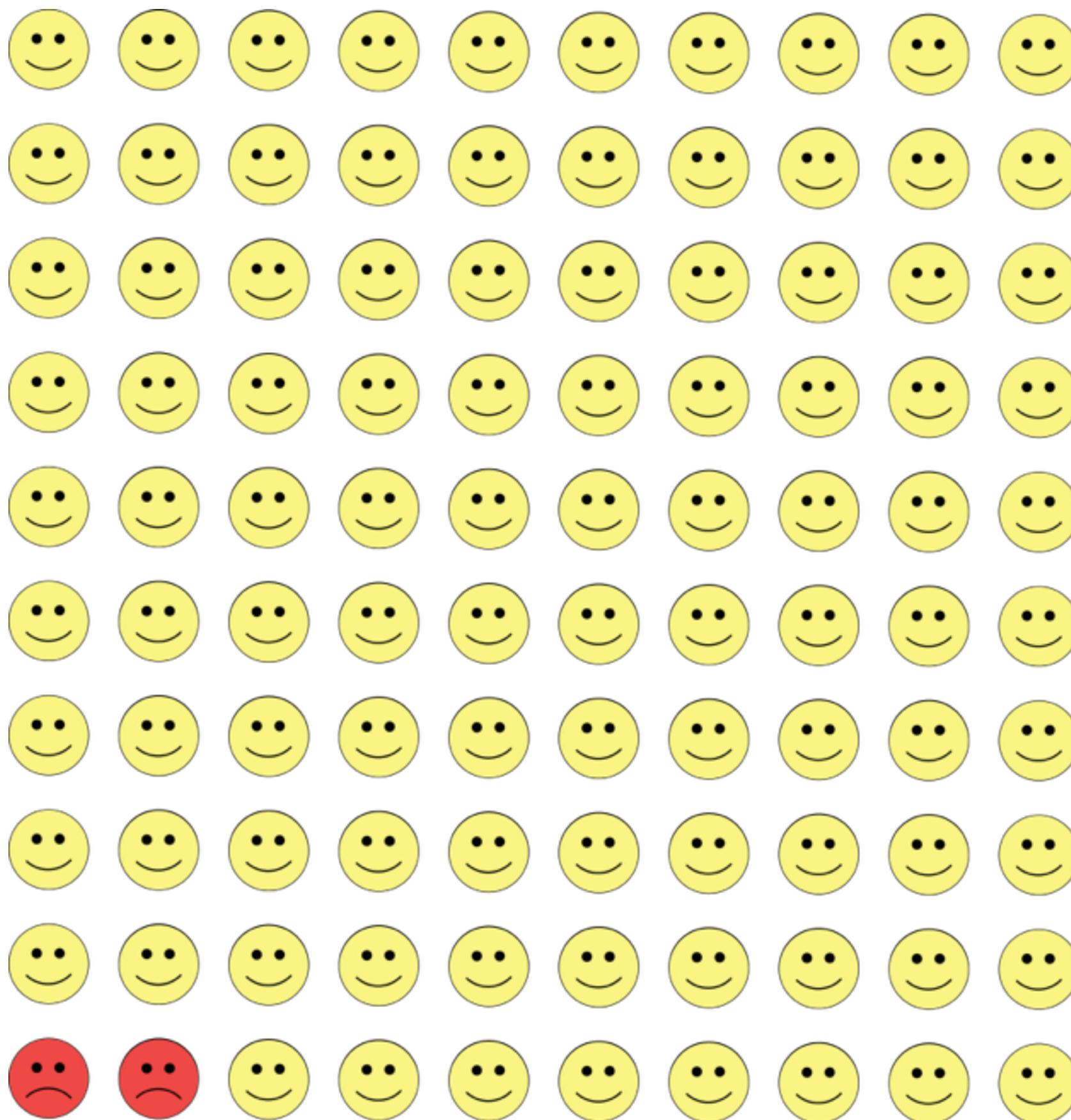


If all 1000 people take an anticoagulant, over 1 year on average:

- 945 people will not have an AF-related stroke (the green faces), but would not have done anyway
- 38 people will be saved from having an AF-related stroke (the yellow faces)
- 17 people will still have an AF-related stroke (the red faces).

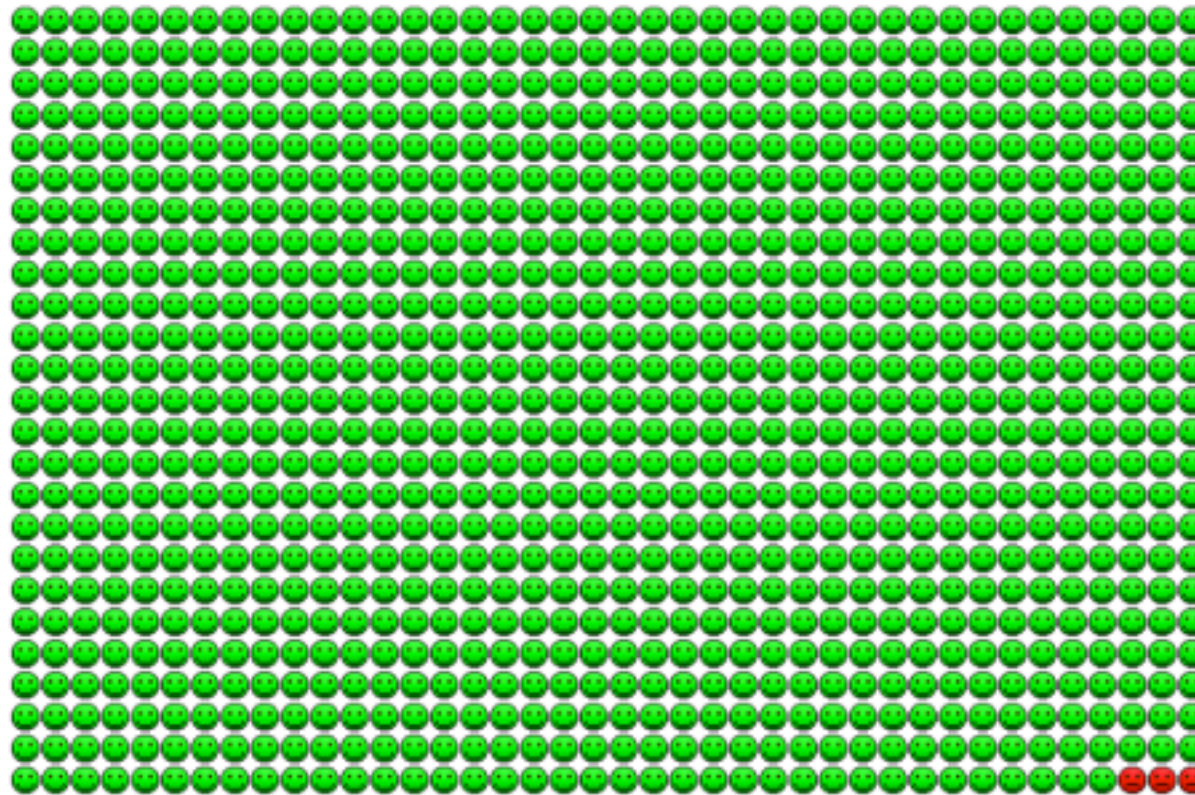
Score=2

Risk=2.2%y/r





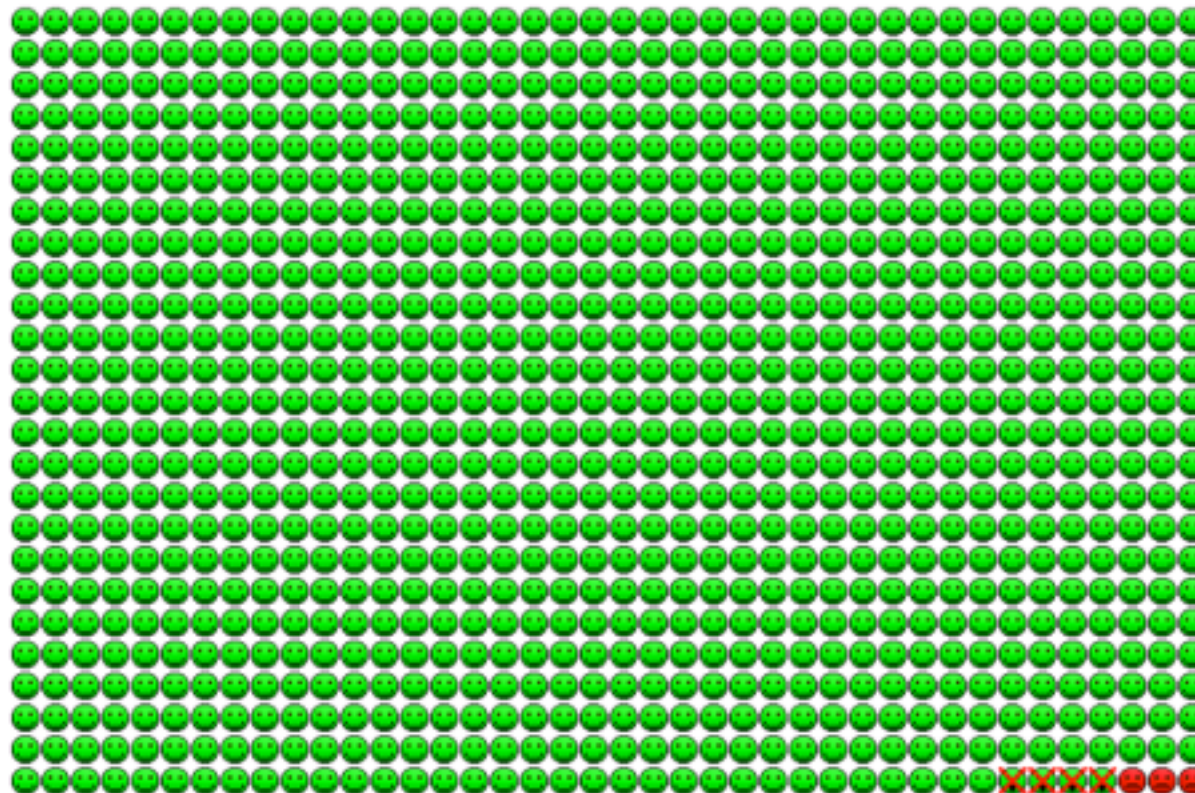
No treatment: HAS-BLED score 1



If 1000 people with AF and a HAS-BLED score of 1 take no anticoagulant, over 1 year on average:

- 997 people will not have a major bleed (the green faces)
- 3 people will have a major bleed (the red faces).

Anticoagulant: HAS-BLED score 1



If all 1000 people take an anticoagulant, over 1 year on average:

- 993 people will not have a major bleed (the green faces)
- 3 people will have a major bleed (the red faces), just as they would have done anyway
- An extra 4 people will have a major bleed (the green faces with the red cross).

Reassessing Stroke Risk

- For people without anticoagulation
- Review stroke risk at 65
- Or if they develop any of the following at any age:
 - Diabetes/HTN
 - Heart failure
 - Peripheral arterial disease
 - Coronary heart disease
 - CVA/TIA or systemic thromboembolism

Anticoagulation NICE 2014

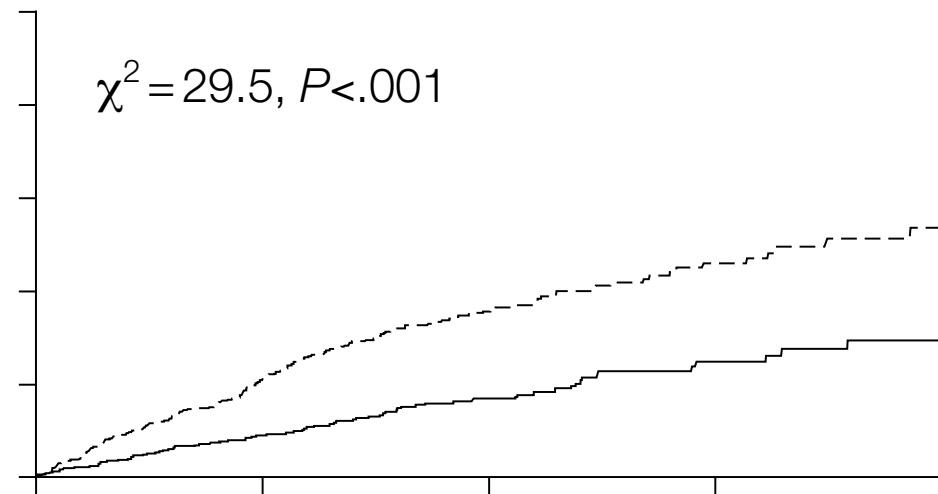
- Warfarin
- Or NOAC
- No preferences

Aspirin NICE 2014

- Do not offer aspirin
- As monotherapy solely for stroke prevention to people with atrial fibrillation

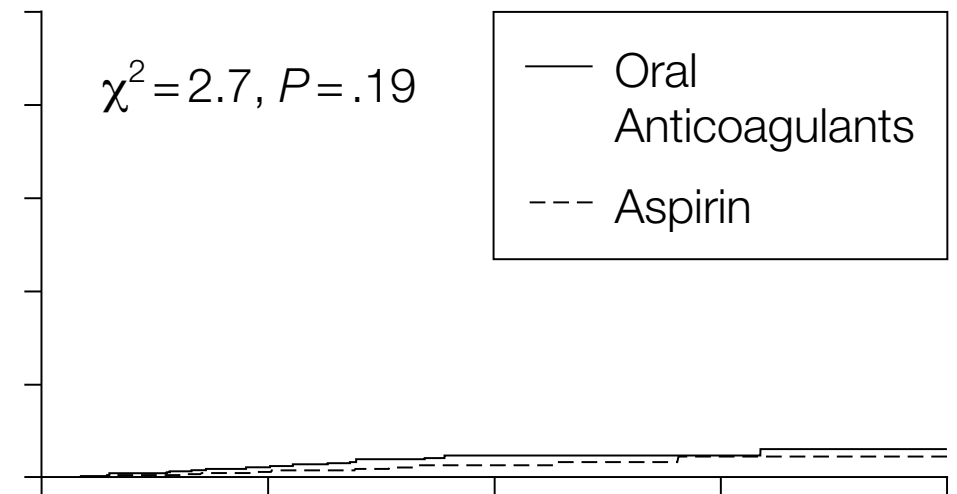
Aspirin Data

Ischemic Strokes



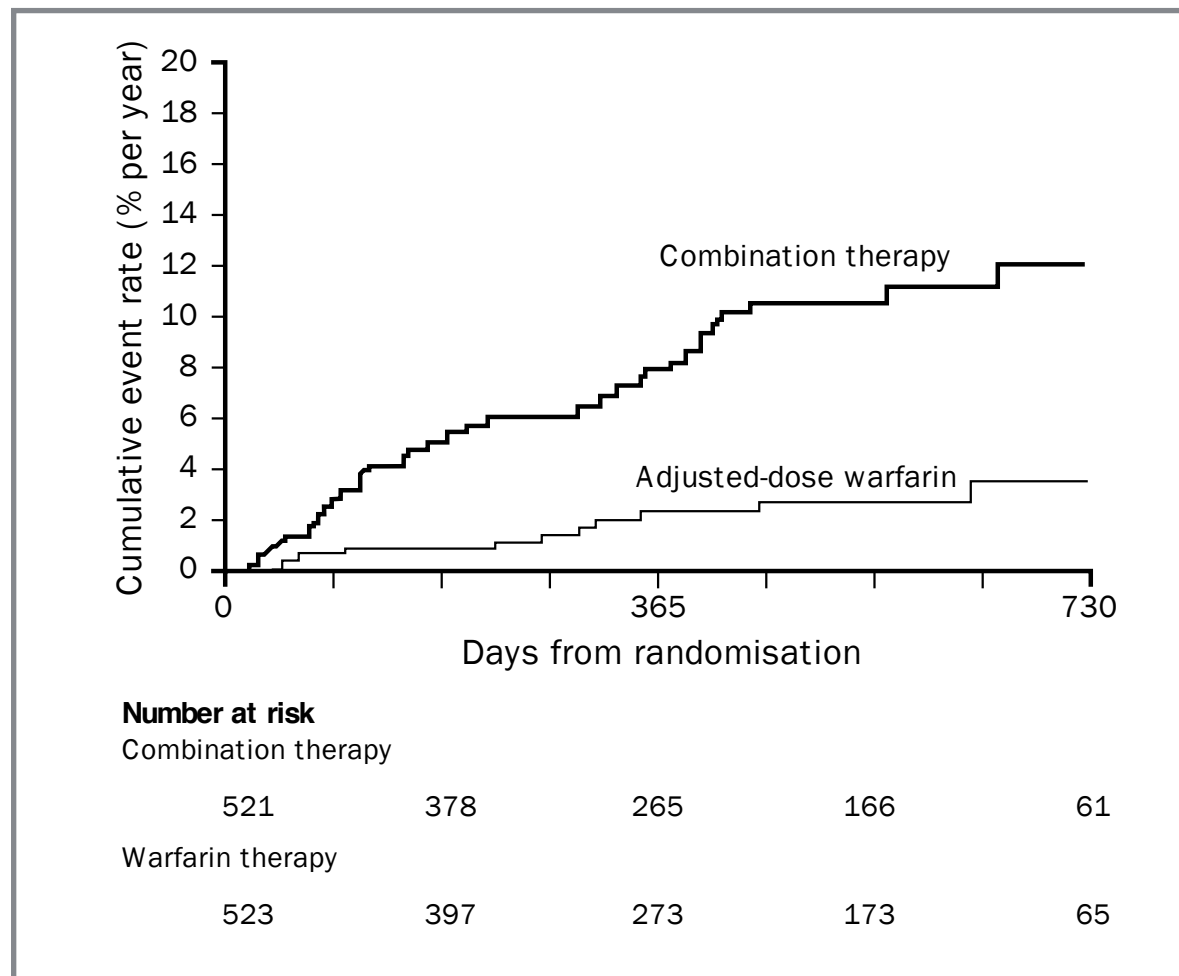
1939	1415	833	352	165
2113	1526	893	358	145

Hemorrhagic Strokes

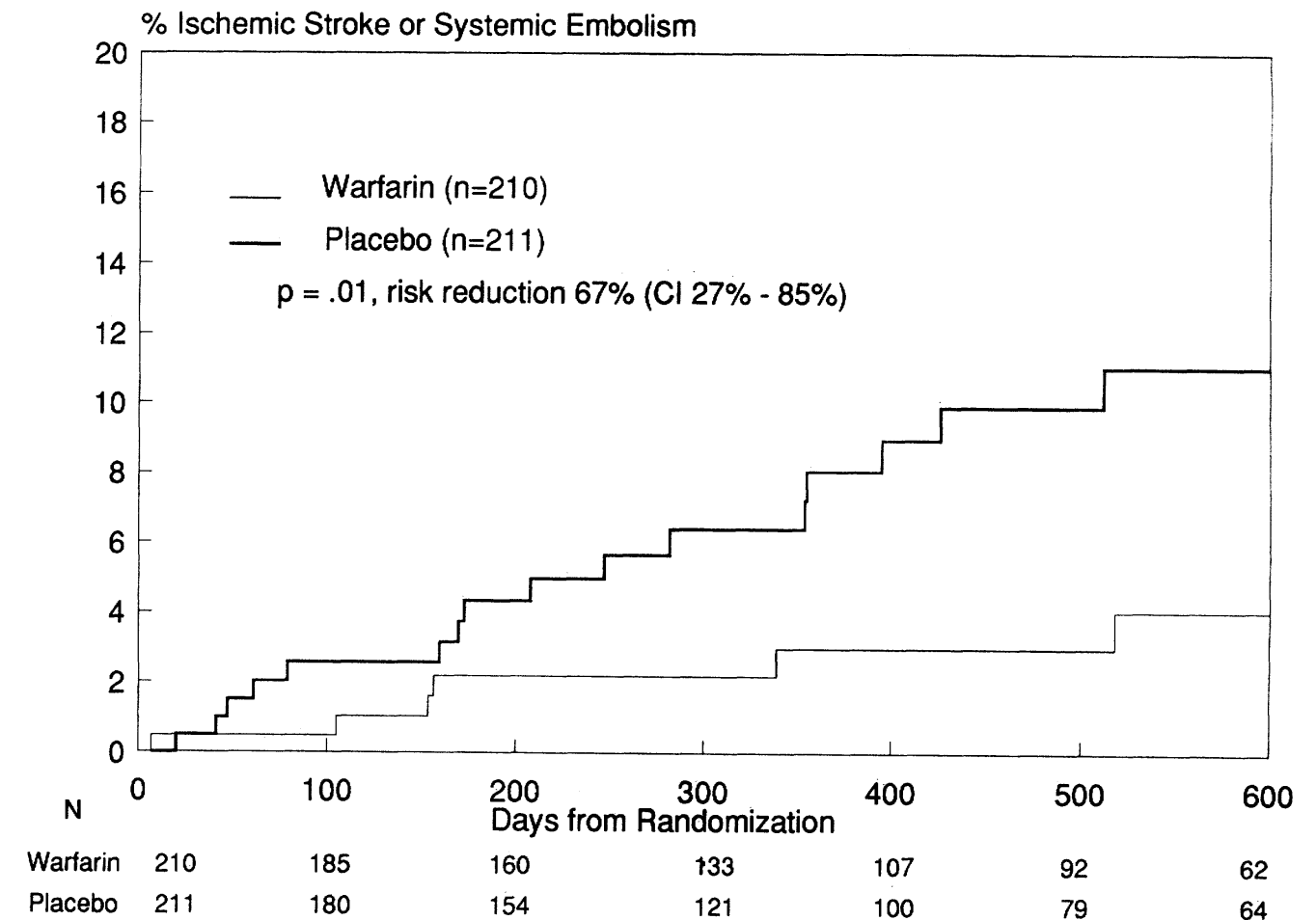


1939	1432	842	359	166
2113	1568	935	376	153

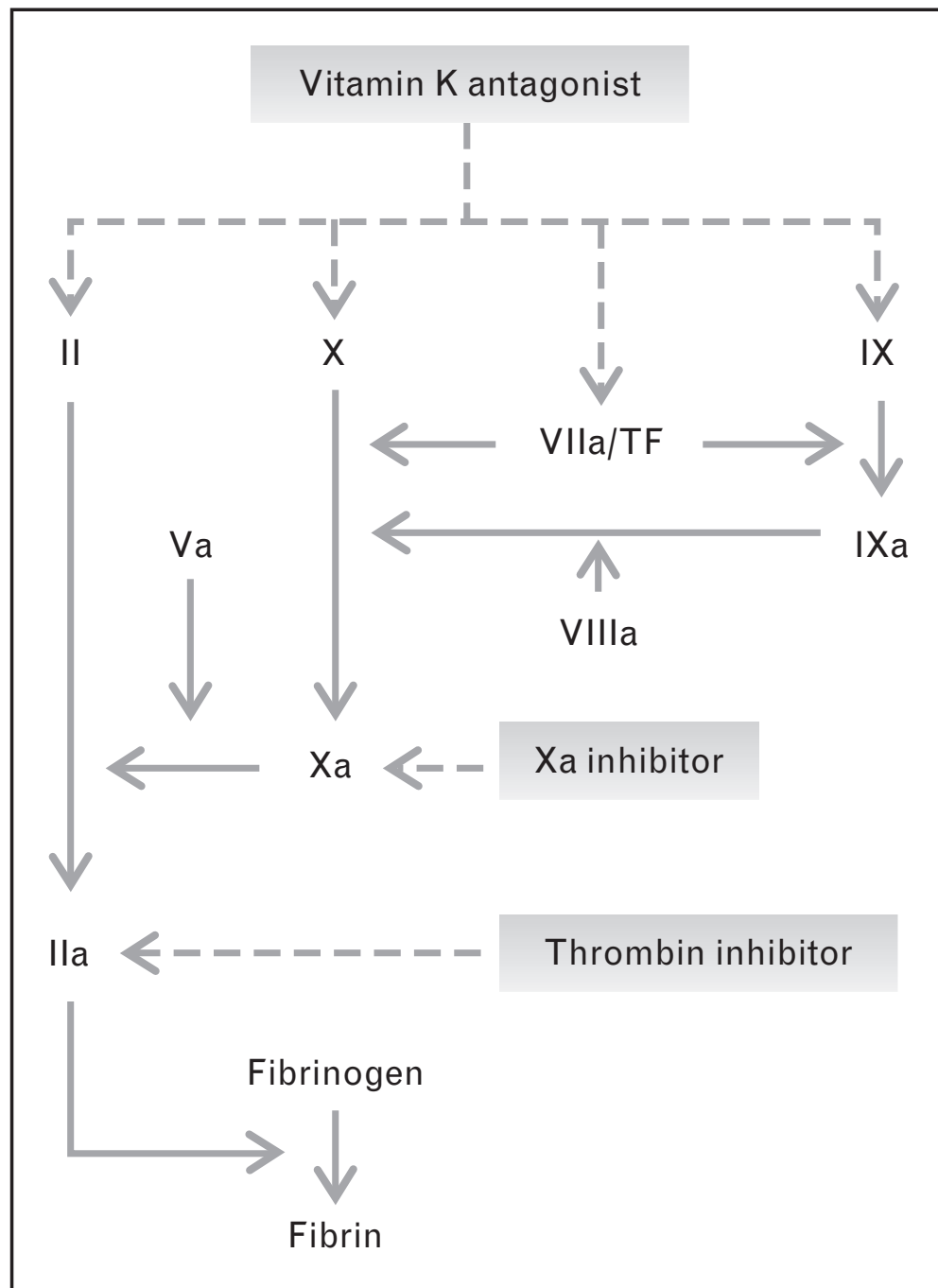
Warfarin Reduces Stroke Rate



Stroke Prevention in AF Investigators,
Lancet 1996

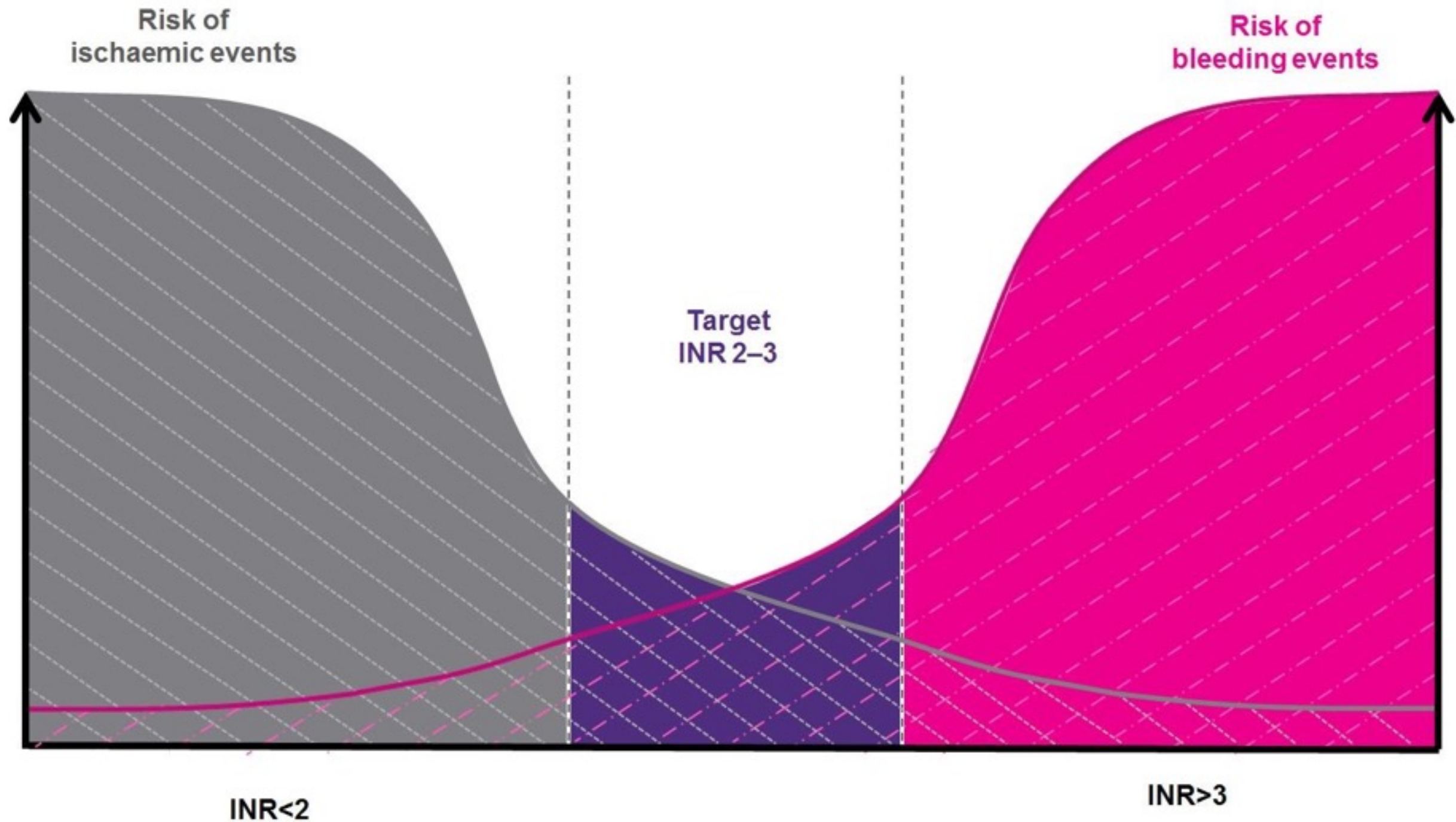


SPAF Study, Circulation 1991



Potentiate Warfarin	Inhibit Warfarin
Acetaminophen Amiodarone Aspirin Antibiotics (particularly) Cephalosporins, ciprofloxacin, erythromycin metronidazole, trimethoprim-sulfamethoxazole, macrolides Cimetidine Excessive ETOH Fluconazole NSAIDs Sulfonamides Gingko biloba, ginseng Congestive heart failure	Azathioprine Carbamazepine Haloperidol Oral contraceptives Phenobarbital Rifampin Vitamin K-containing foods (green leafy vegetables): spinach, broccoli, avocado Coenzyme Q St. John's wort Hypothyroidism Nephrotic syndrome Edema Hereditary coumadin resistance

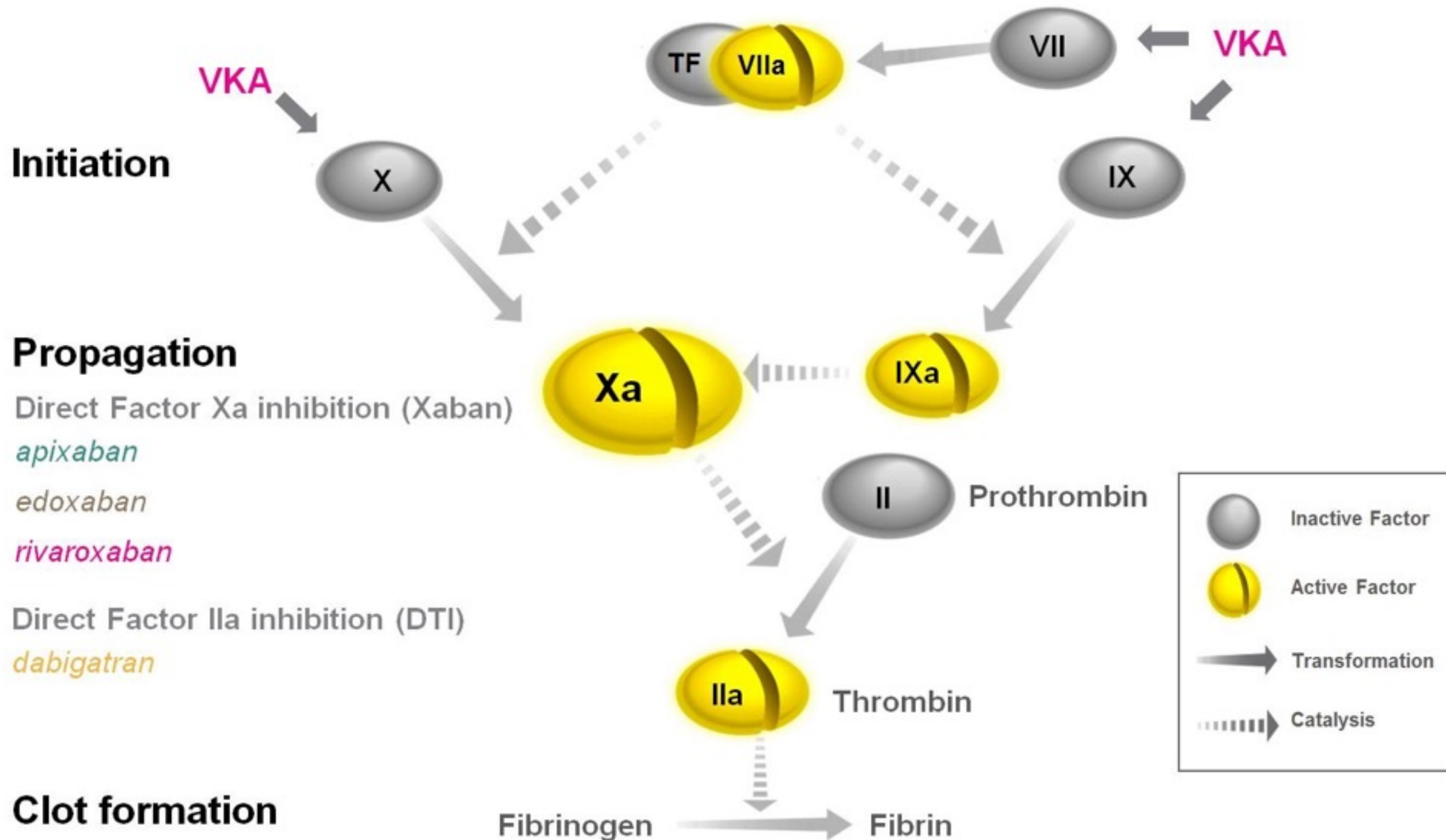
Vitamin K Antagonists (VKAs) have a narrow therapeutic window⁶



NICE: Labile INRs

- Reassess anticoagulation for a person with poor anticoagulation control shown by any of the following:
- 2 INR values > 5 or 1 INR value > 8 within the past 6 months
- 2 INR values less than 1.5 within the past 6 months
- TTR less than 65%

Targets for anticoagulants^{9,10,11}



DTI = Direct Thrombin Inhibitor
TF = Tissue factor

9. Piccini JP et al. *Curr Opin Cardiol*. 2010;25(4):312-320;
10. Spyropoulos AC et al. *Expert Opin Investig Drugs*. 2007;16(4):431-440
11. Steffel J and Braunwald E. *Eur Heart J* 2011;doi:10.1093/eurheartj/ehr052

Xabans and Direct Thrombin Inhibitors (DTIs) have different pharmacological characteristics¹²⁻¹⁸

	Xabans			DTI
	rivaroxaban	apixaban	edoxaban	dabigatran
Target	Factor Xa			Thrombin
Prodrug	No	No	No	Yes
Oral bioavailability	80–100%*	~50%	60%	6.5%
Renal clearance of absorbed active drug	33%	27%	35%	>80%
T _{max} (h)	2–4	3–4	1–2	2–6 [#]
Half-life (h)	5–13	8–13	10–14	12–14
Fixed Dosing (SPAF indication)	OD	BID	OD	BID

*15-20mg doses required to be taken with food

[#]Postoperative period

OD = Once daily
BID = Twice daily

12. Eriksson BI *et al. Annu Rev Med.* 2011;62:41–57
 13. Kubitz D *et al. Clin Pharmacol Ther.* 2005;78(4):412–421
 14. Lopes RD *et al. Am Heart J.* 2010;159(3):331–339
 15. Dabigatran SmPC; 16. Apixaban SmPC; 17. Rivaroxaban SmPC; 18. Edoxaban SmPC

NOACs approved in the EU for stroke prevention in renally impaired patients with NVAF^{15-18, 22}

- ◆ Rivaroxaban is the only NOAC for which a specific dose was tested prospectively in patients with non-valvular AF (NVAF) and moderate renal impairment²²

Dose adjustments for EU-approved NOACs for stroke prevention

	rivaroxaban	apixaban	edoxaban	dabigatran
Dose	20 mg OD 15 mg OD	5 mg BID 2.5 mg BID	60 mg OD 30 mg OD	150 mg BID 110 mg BID
Reduced dose	15 mg OD if CrCl 30–49 mL/min	2.5 mg BID if two of the following criteria apply: age ≥80 years, weight ≤60 kg, or creatinine ≥133 µmol/l	30 mg OD if: CrCl <50 ml/min Weight ≤60 Kg Concomitant use of potent P-gp inhibitors	110 mg BID if age ≥80 years or age 75–80 years with a risk factor for bleeding

15. Dabigatran SmPC

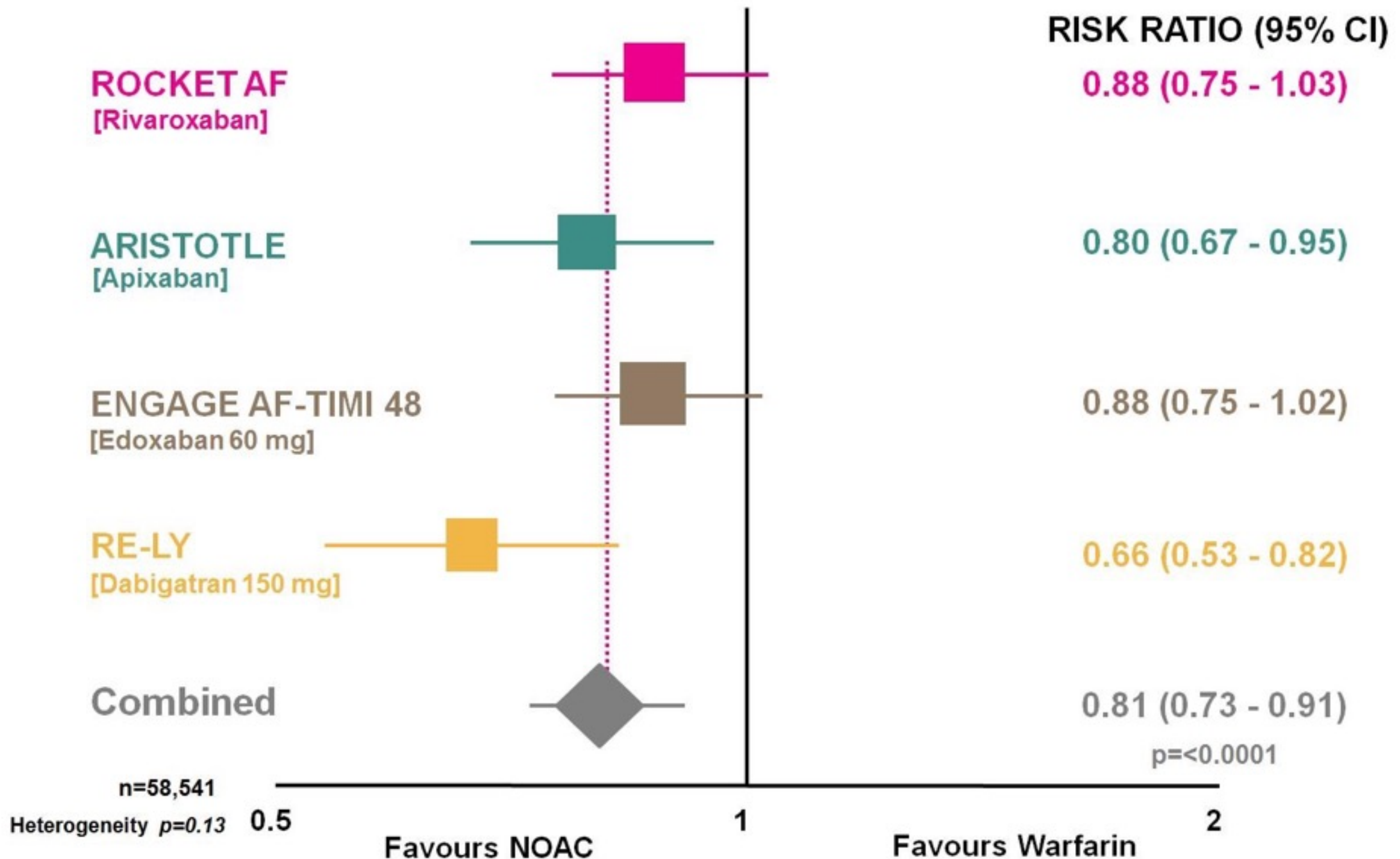
16. Apixaban SmPC

17. Rivaroxaban SmPC

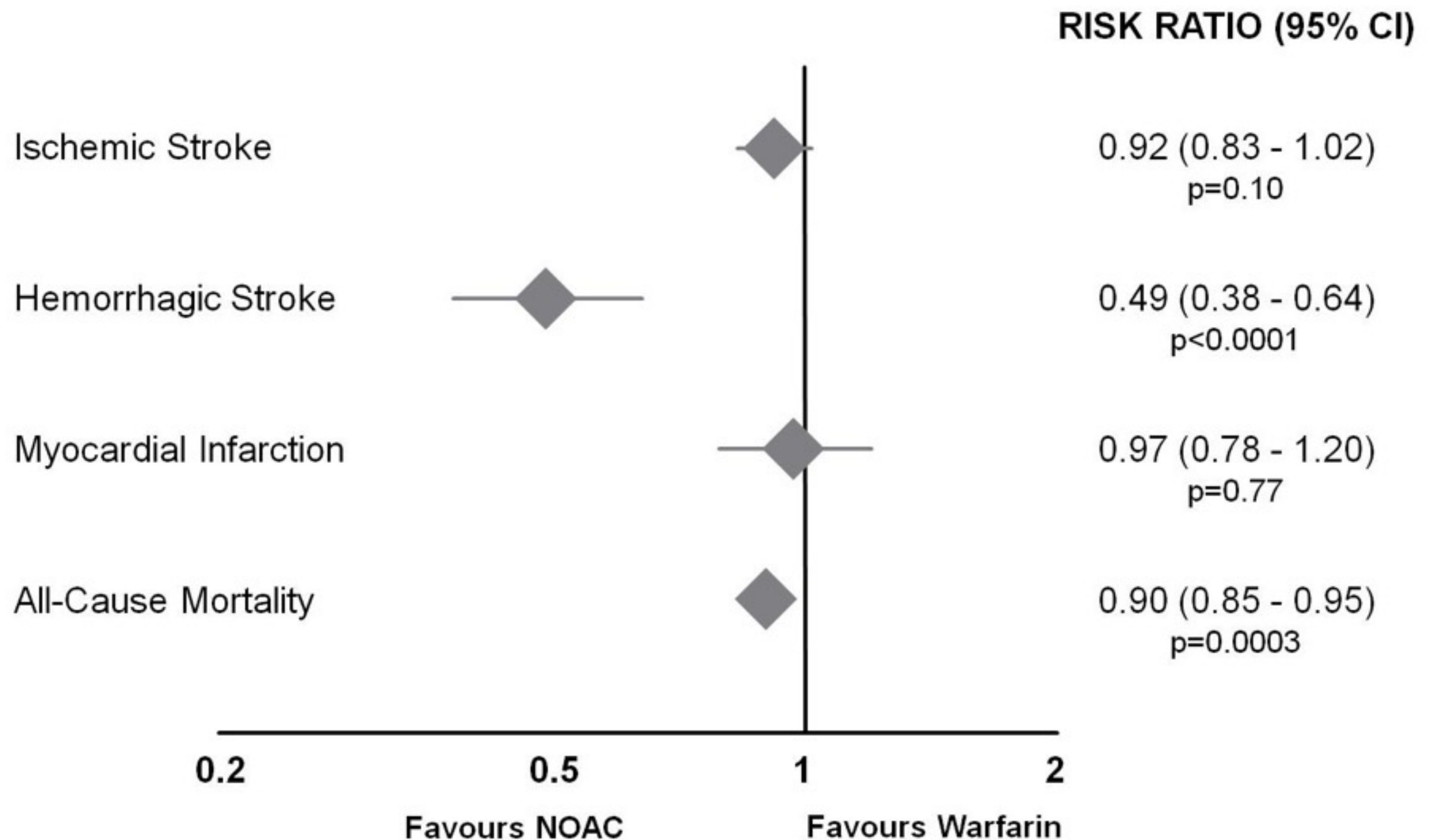
18. Edoxaban SmPC

22. Patel MR et al. *N Engl J Med*. 2011;365(10):883–891

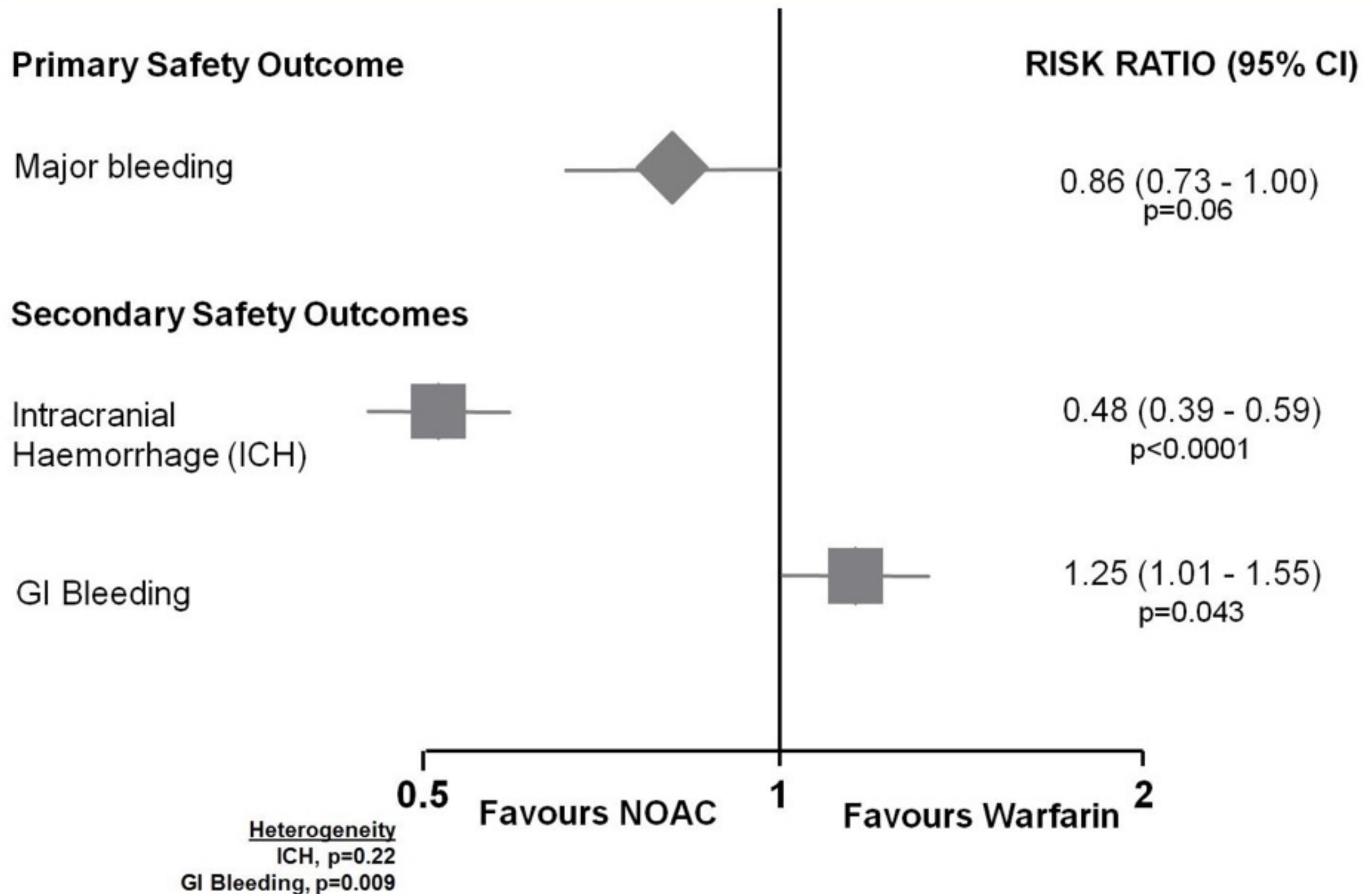
All NOACs: Stroke or systemic embolism²⁷



Secondary efficacy outcomes for all NOACs combined²⁷



Primary and secondary safety outcomes of all NOACs combined²⁸



Measuring NOAC Anticoagulant Effect

	Dabigatran	Apixaban	Rivaroxaban
Plasma peak	2h after ingestion	1-4h post ingestion	2-4h after ingestion
Plasma trough	12-24h after ingestion	12-24h post ingestion	16-24h after ingestion
PT	cannot be used	cannot be used	prolonged: may indicate excess bleeding risk but local calibration required
INR	cannot be used	cannot be used	cannot be used
aPTT	at trough >2x ULN suggests excess bleeding risk	cannot be used	cannot be used
dTT	At trough >200ng/ml $\geq$ 65s: excess bleeding risk	cannot be used	cannot be used
Anti-FXa assays	n/a	no data yet	quantitative; no data on threshold values for bleeding or thrombosis
Ecarin clotting time	at trough >2x ULN: excess bleeding risk	no data yet	not affected

Initiator of anticoagulant treatment:

- Sets indication for anticoagulation;
- Makes choice of anticoagulant;
- Decides on need of proton pump inhibitor;
- Baseline haemoglobin, renal and liver function;
- Provides education;
- Hands out anticoagulation card;
- Organizes follow-up (when, by whom, what?);
- Remains responsible coordinator for follow-up.

first FU: 1 month

Follow-up: GP, anticoagulant clinic, initiator of therapy, etc.

- Checks:
 1. Compliance (patient should bring remaining pills);
 2. Thrombo-embolic events;
 3. Bleeding events;
 4. Other side effects;
 5. Co-medications and over-the-counter drugs.
 6. Need for blood sampling?

In case of problems: contacts initiator of treatment.

Else: fills out anticoagulation card and sets date/place for next follow-up.

1 m?
3 m
6 m?

Blood Sampling

Yearly
6 monthly
3 monthly
On indication

- Haemoglobin, renal and liver function
- Renal function if CrCl 30–60 ml/min, or if on dabigatran and >75 years or fragile
- If CrCl 15–30 ml/min
- If intercurring condition that may impact renal or hepatic function

Dose Changes

	Rivaroxaban	Apixaban	Edoxaban	Dabigatran
Usual Dose	20 mg od	5 mg bd	60 mg od	150 mg bd
Reduce dose indications	Reduce if GFR 30-49 ml/min	Reduce if GFR<30 or two or more of: Age≥80yrs Wt ≤60 Kg Creat ≥133	Reduce if: GFR<50 Wt≤60 Kg Concomitant P-gp inhibitors*	Reduce if: Age≥80 yrs or Age 75-80 with bleeding risks Using verapamil
Reduced dose	15 mg od	2.5 mb bd	30 mg bd	110 mg bd
Avoid if:	GFR<15	GFR<15	GFR<15	GFR<30

*P-glycoprotein (P-gp) inhibitors: ciclosporin, dronedarone, erythromycin, or ketoconazole.

Severe NOAC Drug Interactions

- Avoid these drugs
- Increase Levels (up to 150%)
 - Dronedarone
 - Antifungals, e.g., Ketoconazole
 - Protease Inhibitors, e.g., Ritonavir
- Decrease levels (about 50%)
 - Rifampicin
 - St Johns Wort
 - Carbamazepine, Phenytoin, Phenobarbital

Moderate Drug Interactions with NOACs

- Rivaroxaban should be taken with food (39% variance)
- Quinidine
 - Increase levels by 50%
- Clari/Erythromycin
 - Increase levels 20-50%
- NSAIDs, anti-platelets

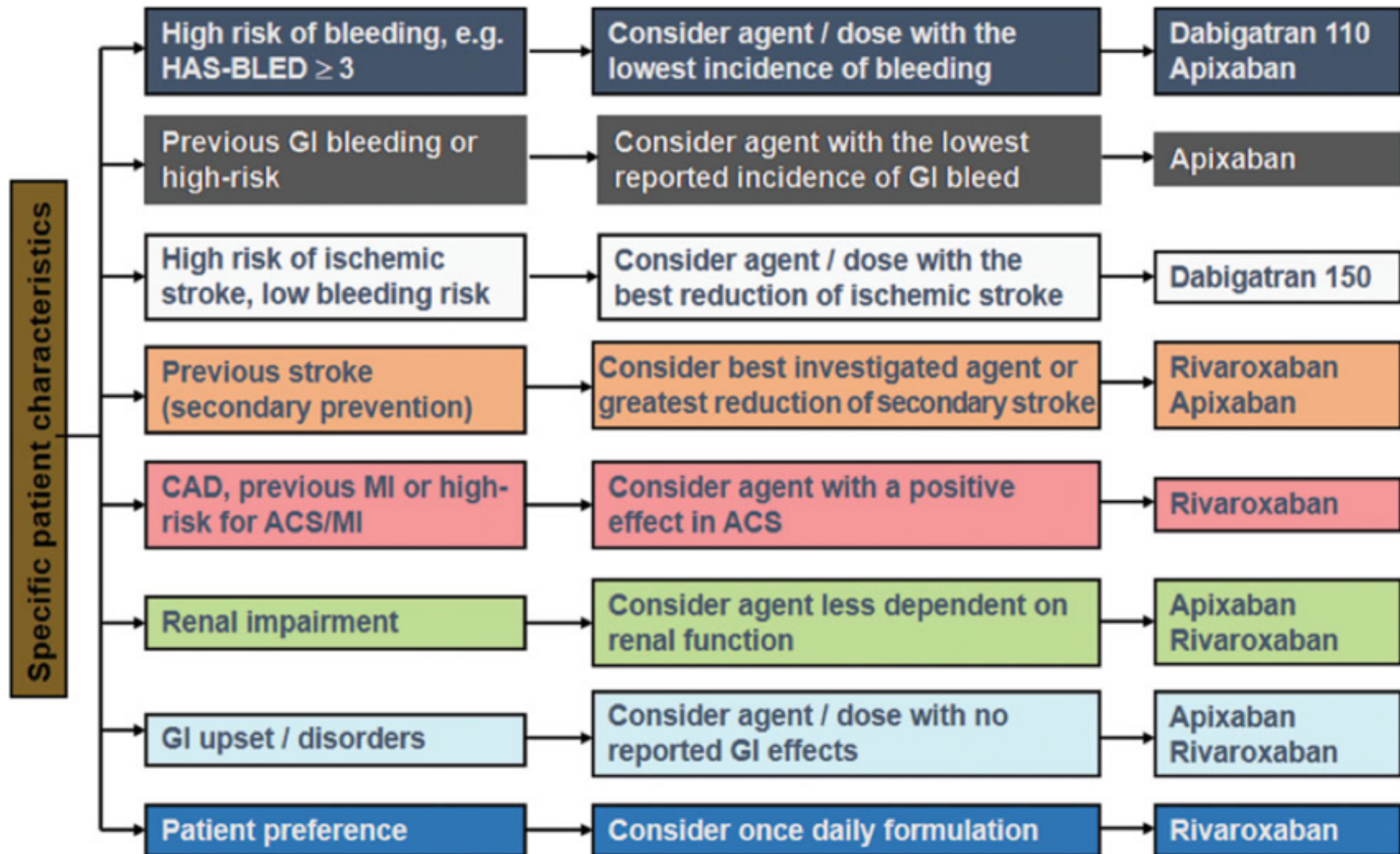
Switching between Anticoagulants

- NOAC to VKA
 - Continue NOAC until INR > 2
 - Measure INR just prior to next dose of VKA
 - Measure INR day after stopping NOAC
- VKA to NOAC
 - Initiated immediately if INR < 2
 - If the INR is 2.0–2.5, NOACs can be started immediately or (better) the next day
 - For INR > 2.5, repeat INR in 2 days

Dealing with dosing errors

- Missed dose
 - No double dose for missed individual doses
 - Forgotten dose can be taken until half dosing interval elapsed (e.g. up to 12 h for a once daily dosing)
 - If not possible dose skipped & next scheduled dose taken
- Double dose
 - opt to forgo next planned dose
- Overdose, depending on amount of suspected overdose, hospitalisation for monitoring

Which NOAC?



Sentinel Stoke National Audit Programme (SSNAP)



Royal College
of Physicians

SSNAP

Sentinel Stroke National Audit Programme (SSNAP)

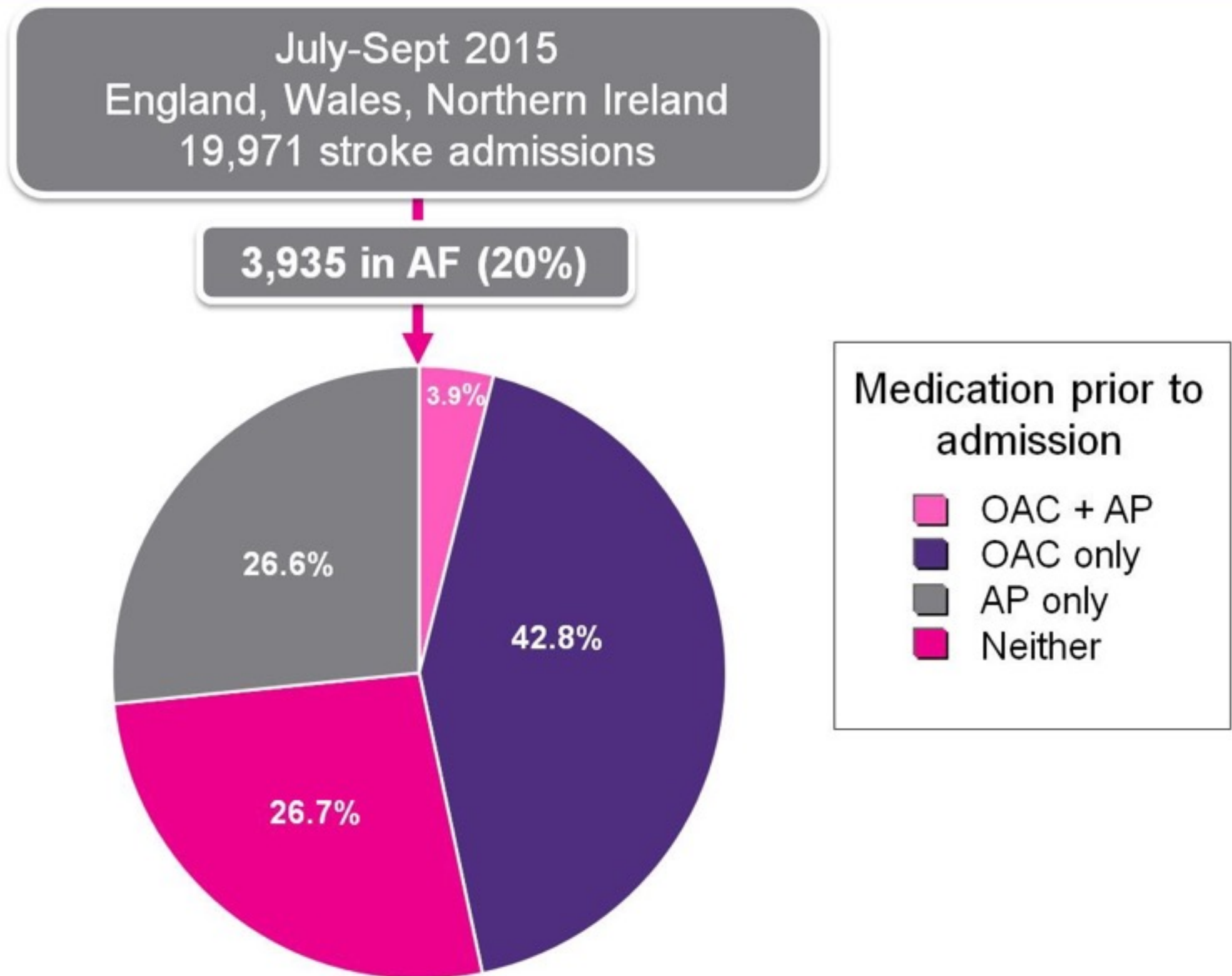
Clinical audit July - September 2015
public report

National results

January 2016

Clinical audit

...but still less than 50% of AF patients were anticoagulated at time of stroke²³



OAC = Oral anticoagulant
AP = Antiplatelet

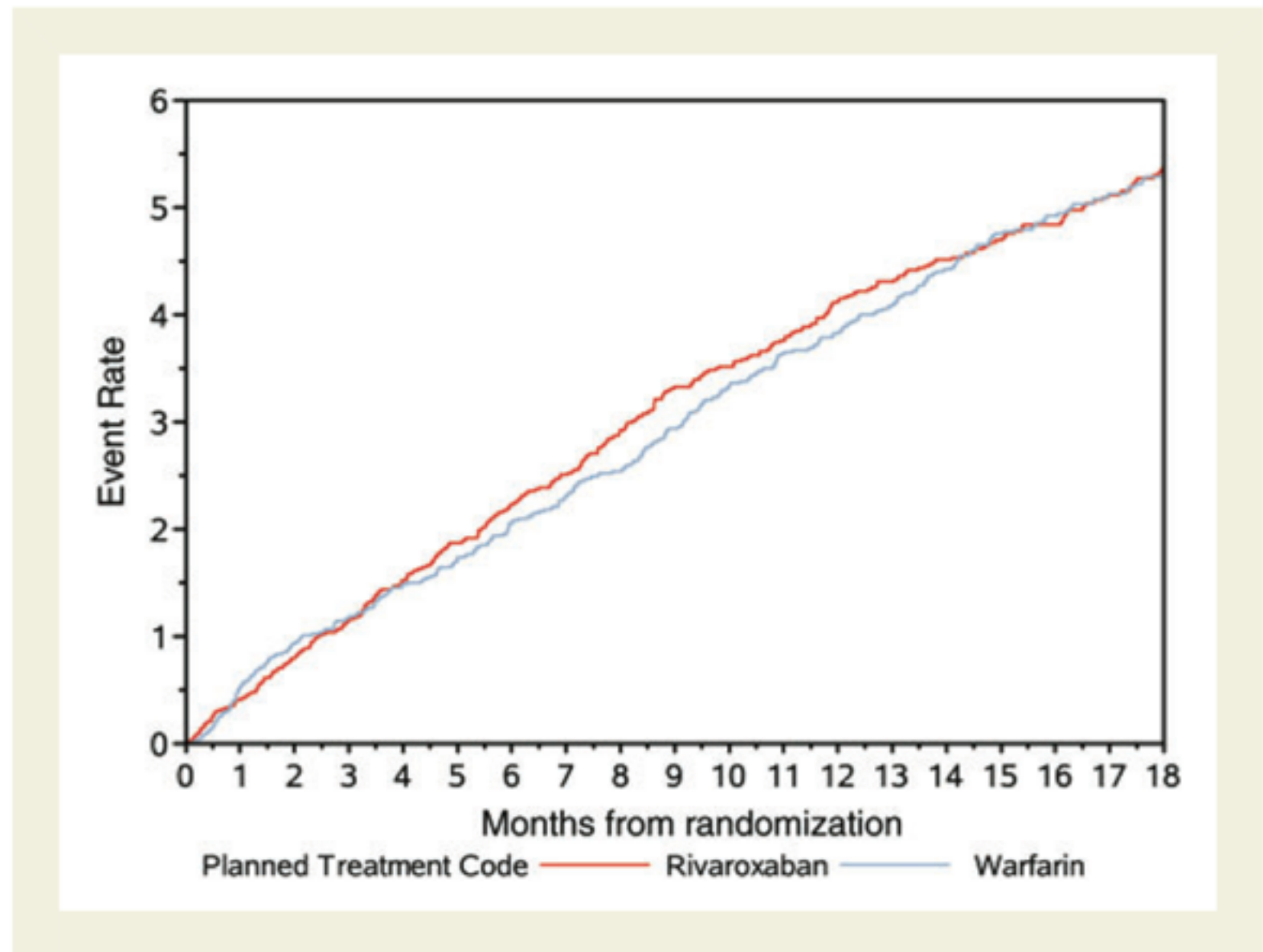
Worries over
Bleeding?

Patient Attitude To Risk of Anticoagulation

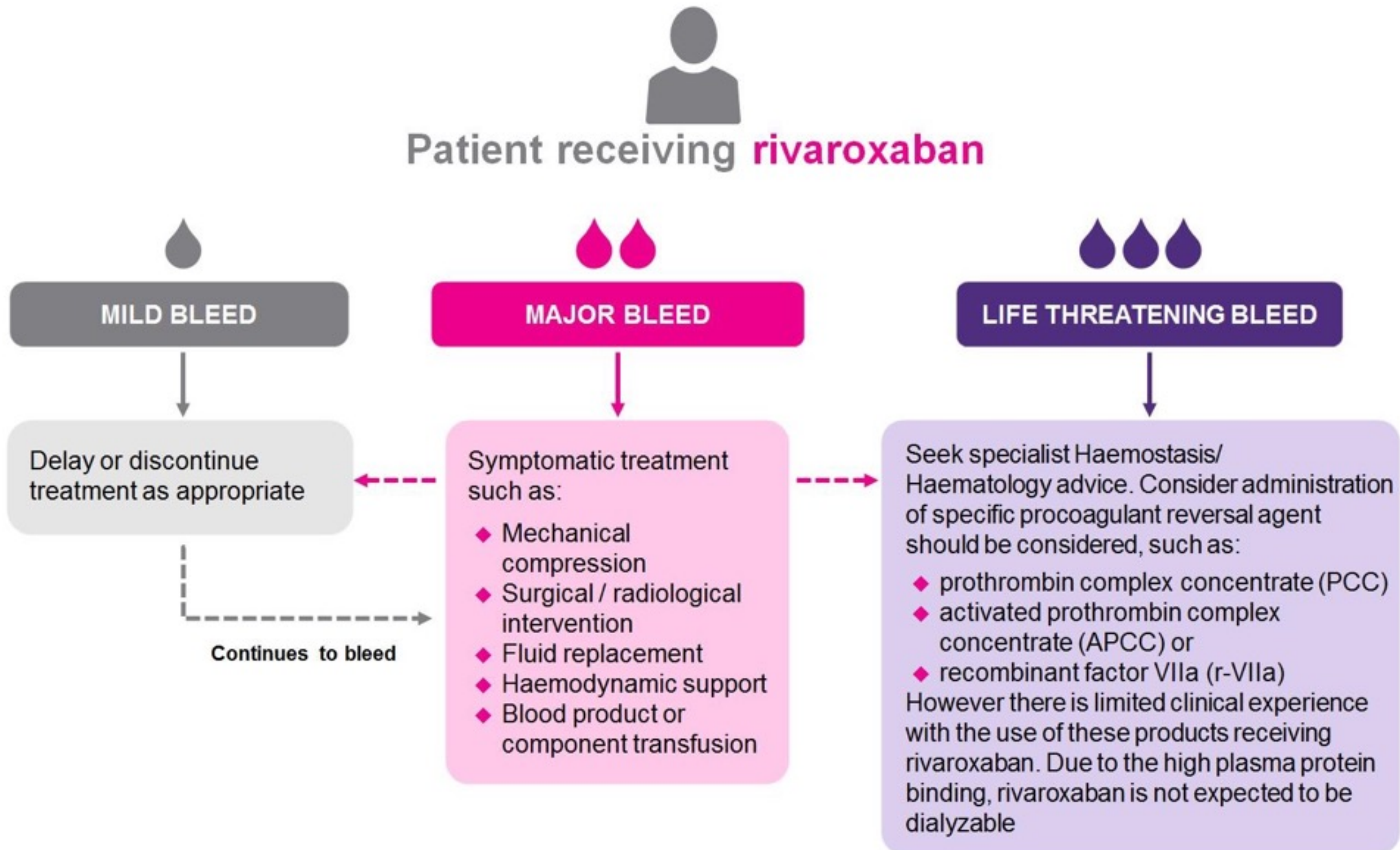
- Patients required 15% relative risk reduction in the risk of stroke to consider anticoagulation
- Patients were willing to endure 4.4 major bleeds in order to prevent one stroke

Bleeding Warfarin vs Rivaroxaban

- No difference in bleeding
- No difference in outcomes

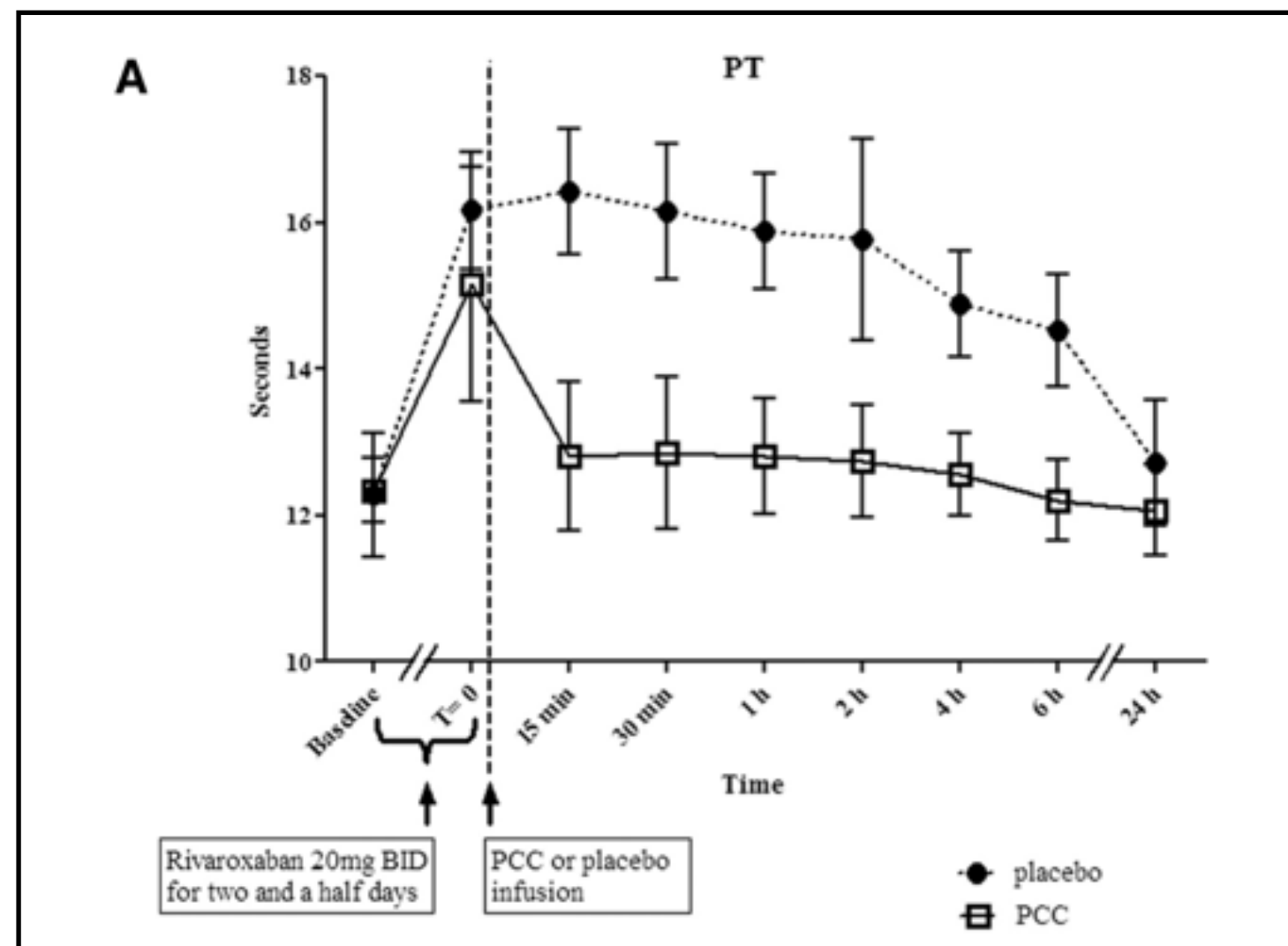


How to manage bleeding complications



Dealing with bleeding - Rivaroxaban

- Prothrombin complex concentrate
- Immediately & completely reverses the anticoagulant effect of rivaroxaban



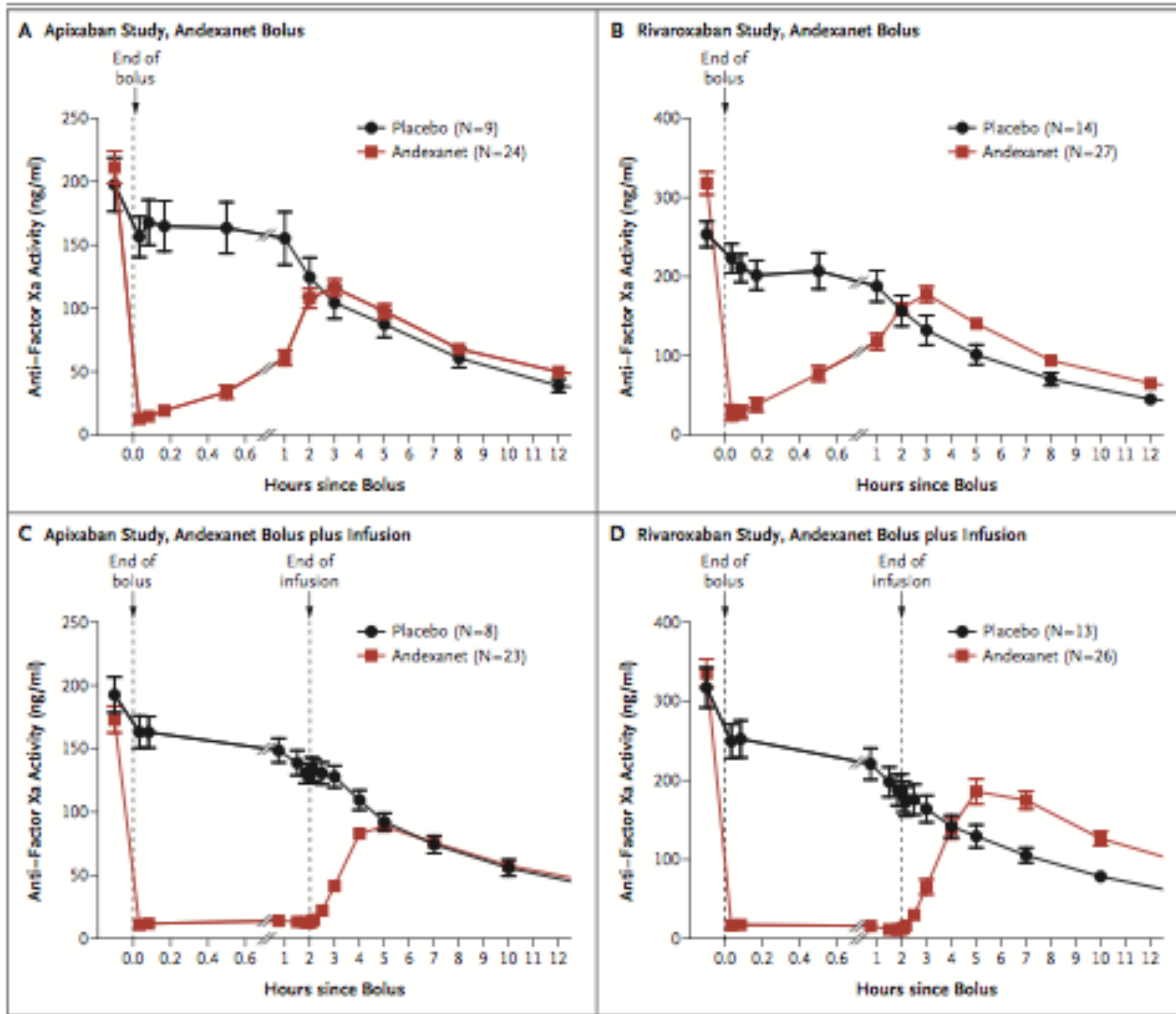
Andexanet alfa (andexanet)*

- Specific reversal agent
- Recombinant modified human factor Xa decoy protein
- Neutralize both direct and indirect factor Xa inhibitors
- Rapidly reversed apixaban-induced and rivaroxaban-induced changes
- In anti-factor Xa activity and thrombin generation without serious adverse events

*Currently Unlicensed

Siegal et al. NEJM 2015

Andexanet

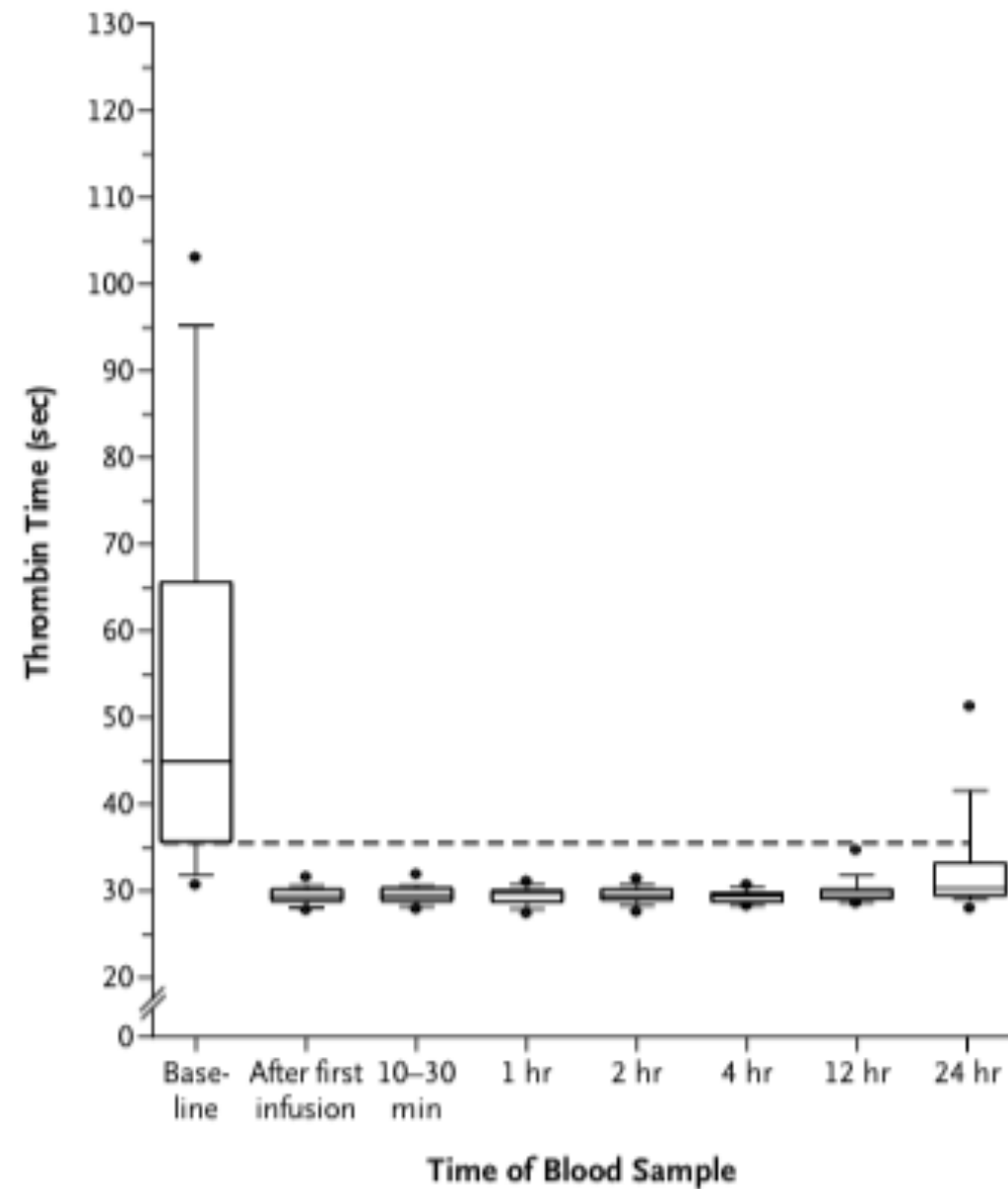


Idarucizumab for Dabigatran Reversal

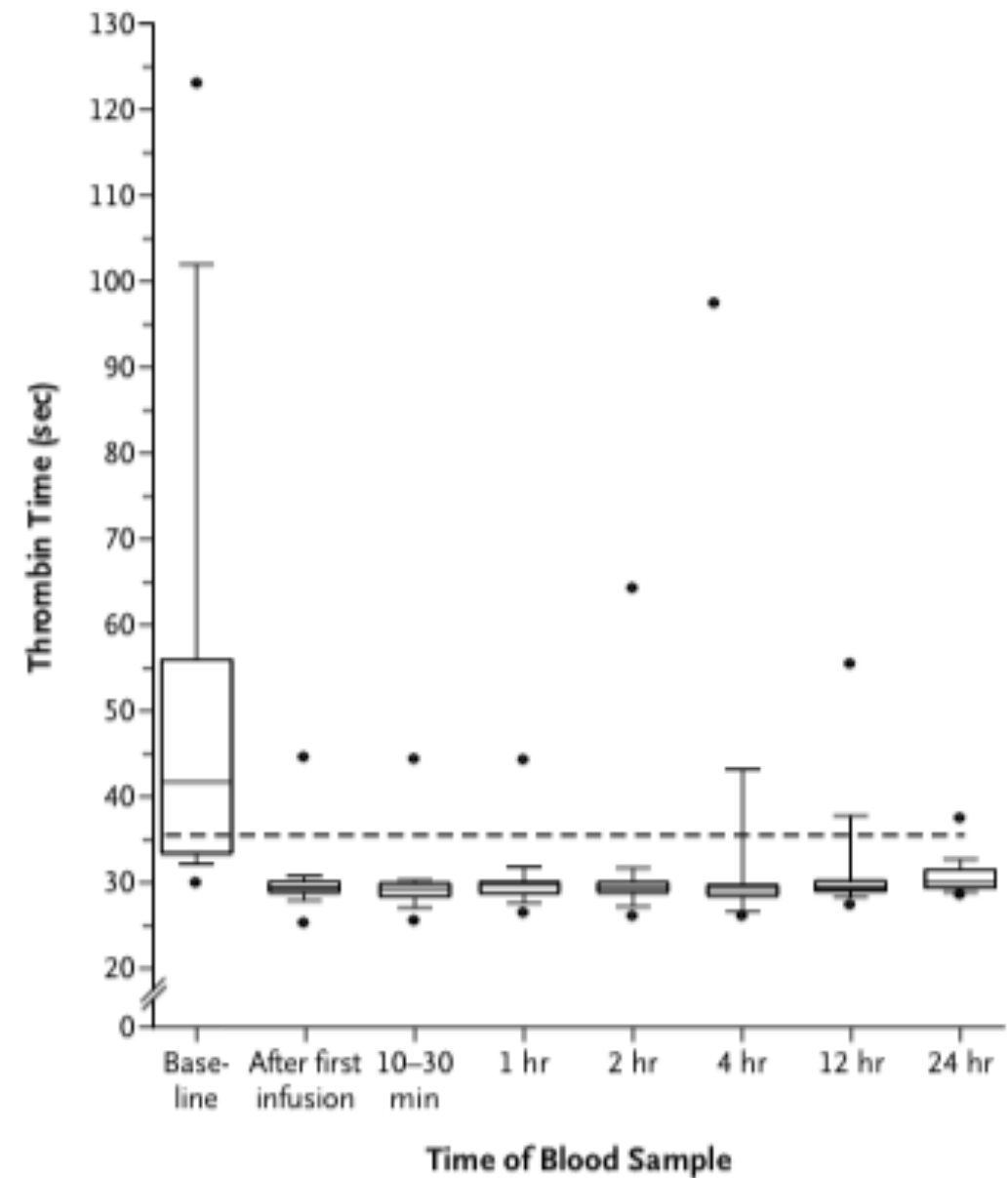
- Monoclonal antibody fragment
- Reverse Dabigatran in serious bleeding or needing urgent procedure
- Complete reversal within minutes
- Dilute thrombin time was normalised in 98% of patients in grp A, 93% in grp B

Idarucizumab for Dabigatran Reversal

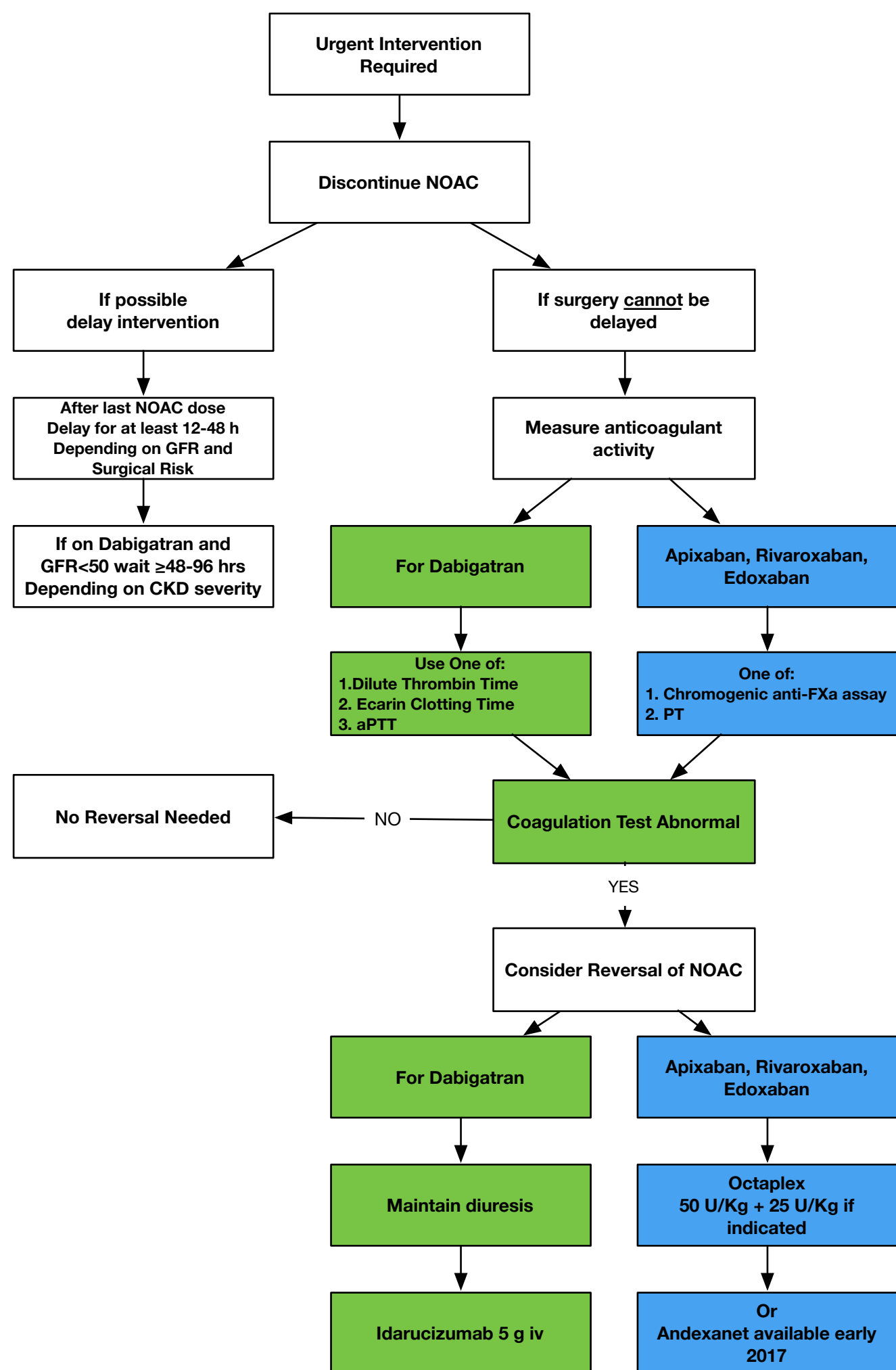
A Dilute Thrombin Time in Group A



B Dilute Thrombin Time in Group B

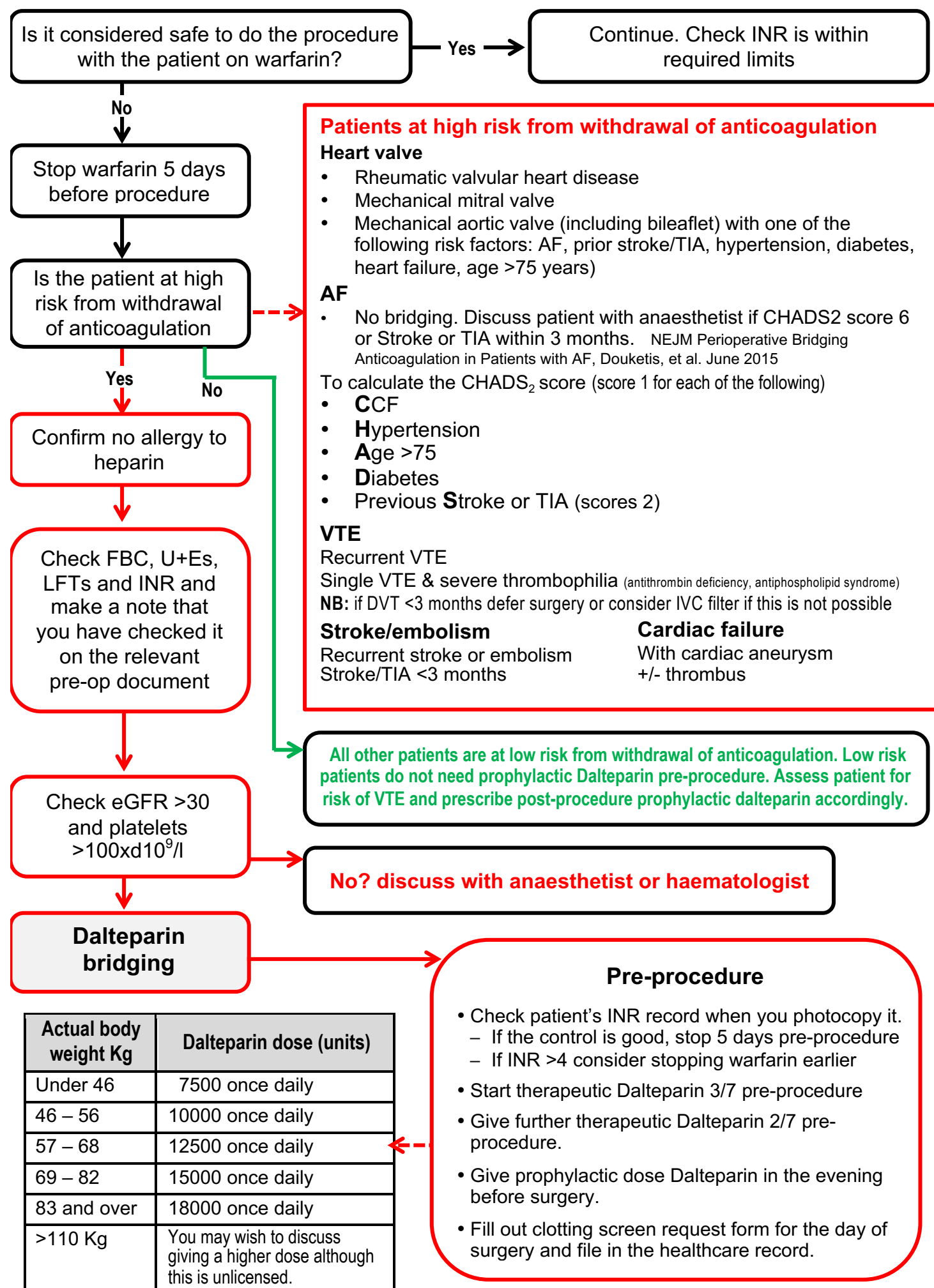


Urgent Surgery



Elective Surgery

Decision to Bridge



NOAC Drug Cessation Prior To Surgery

Last intake of drug before elective surgical intervention

No important bleeding risk and/or adequate local haemostasis possible:
perform at trough level (i.e. ≥ 12 or 24 h after last dose)

Dabigatran

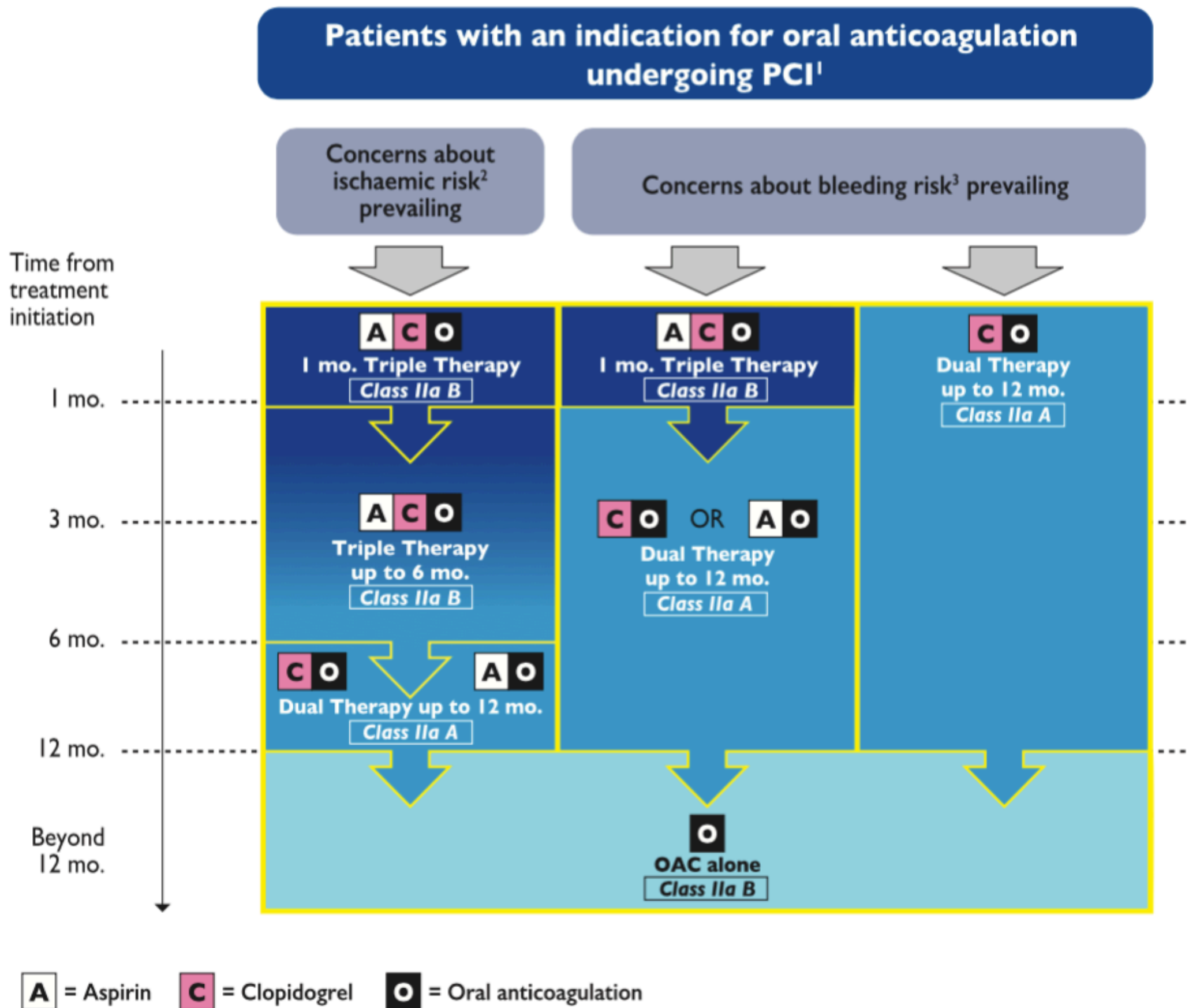
Apixaban, Edoxaban, Rivaroxaban

	Low risk	High risk	Low risk	High risk
GFR ≥ 80	≥24 h	≥48 h	≥24 h	≥48 h
GFR 50-80	≥36 h	≥72 h	≥24 h	≥48 h
GFR 30-50	> 48 h	≥96 h	≥24 h	≥48 h
GFR 15-30	Not indicated	Not indicated	≥36 h	≥48 h
GFR<15	No official indication for use			
There is no need for bridging with LMWH/UFH				
Low risk: with a low frequency of bleeding and/or minor impact of a bleeding; high risk with a high frequency of bleeding and/or important clinical impact. See also Table ****.				

Thank you

Questions?

Extra Slides



See next slide for ischaemia vs bleeding risk factors

Balancing Risks IHD vs Bleeding on OAC and antiplatelets

Table 5 High-risk features of stent-driven recurrent ischaemic events

- | |
|---|
| • Prior stent thrombosis on adequate antiplatelet therapy |
| • Stenting of the last remaining patent coronary artery |
| • Diffuse multivessel disease especially in diabetic patients |
| • Chronic kidney disease (i.e. creatinine clearance <60 mL/min) |
| • At least three stents implanted |
| • At least three lesions treated |
| • Bifurcation with two stents implanted |
| • Total stent length >60 mm |
| • Treatment of a chronic total occlusion |

©ESC 2017

Table 6 Unfavourable patient profile for a combination of oral anticoagulant and antiplatelet therapy

- | |
|--|
| • Short life expectancy |
| • Ongoing malignancy |
| • Poor expected adherence |
| • Poor mental status |
| • End stage renal failure |
| • Advanced age |
| • Prior major bleeding/prior haemorrhagic stroke |
| • Chronic alcohol abuse |
| • Anaemia |
| • Clinically significant bleeding on dual antithrombotic therapy |

©ESC 2017

Patient with AF suffering from an intracranial bleed on OAC
If acute event: establish intensity of anticoagulation (see bleeding flow chart)

**Contra-indication
for OAC**

Consider further information to allow informed judgement

Factors supporting withholding of OAC:

Bleeding occurred on adequately dosed NOAC or in setting of treatment interruption or underdosing
Older age
Uncontrolled hypertension
Cortical bleed
Severe intracranial bleed
Multiple microbleeds (e.g. >10)
Cause of bleed cannot be removed or treated
Chronic alcohol abuse
Need for dual antiplatelet therapy after PCI

Factors supporting reinitiation of OAC:

Bleeding occurred on VKA or in setting of overdose
Traumatic or treatable cause
Younger age
Well controlled hypertension
Basal ganglia bleed
No or mild white matter lesions
Surgical removal of subdural haematoma
Subarachnoid bleed: aneurysm clipped or coiled
High-risk of ischaemic stroke

**Patient or next of kin choice informed
by multidisciplinary team advice**

**No stroke
protection
(no evidence)**

**LAA
occlusion
(IIbC)**

**Initiate or resume OAC, choosing
an agent with low intracranial bleeding risk,
after 4–8 weeks (IIbB)**

Patient with atrial fibrillation and acute TIA or ischaemic stroke
Exclusion of intracerebral bleeding by CT or MRI

TIA

**Mild stroke
(NIHSS <8)**

**Moderate stroke
(NIHSS 8–15)**

**Severe stroke
(NIHSS ≥16)**

Consider additional clinical factors favouring early / delayed initiation of OAC

Factors favouring early initiation of OAC:

Low NIHSS (<8):
Small/no brain infarction on imaging
High recurrence risk, e.g. cardiac thrombus on echo
No need for percutaneous endoscopic gastrostomy
No need for carotid surgery
No haemorrhagic transformation
Clinically stable
Young patient
Blood pressure is controlled

Factors favouring delayed initiation of OAC:

High NIHSS (≥8):
Large/moderate brain infarction on imaging
Needs gastrostomy or major surgical intervention
Needs carotid surgery
Haemorrhagic transformation
Neurologically unstable
Elderly patient
Uncontrolled hypertension

Evaluate haemorrhagic transformation by CT or MRI at day 6

Evaluate haemorrhagic transformation by CT or MRI at day 12

**Start
OAC**

1 day after acute event

3 days after acute event

6 days after acute event

12 days after acute event